Grand National lottery

As the weights are published the National becomes less of a gamble, **page 41**

Living doll

Woman who rebuilt herself in the image of Barbie, **page 16**

A concert ticket for 20p

From Mozart to the Cajun Boat Band, take a friend for 20p. **Details, page 15**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,184 TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1995

Councils will be told to use reserves

Ministers to dig in over teachers' pay

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JOHN O'LEARY

MINISTERS are braced for a showdown with town hall chiefs and school governors over teachers' pay.

They have dismissed calls for more money to fund a 2.7 per cent pay award and will tell local authorities and schools to dip into their reserves and balances to meet the £270 million increase for 470,000 teachers. Phasing in the rise to ease the pressure on the education service also appears to have been rejected.

As an indication of the Government's resolve to see off a protest from schools, the Education Department yesterday took a tough line with school governors who threatened to exceed their budgets. The department made it clear that schools taking such action would be removed from the control of governors and be managed by local authorities.

Matters will come to a head on Thursday when the Cabinet approves pay increases of about 2.7 per cent for 1.4 million public servants.

Senior Downing Street officials indicated yesterday that there was no extra money, although the Government was aware of concerns being raised.

While health authorities and the armed forces can pay the increases at a pinch, the education service is in turmoil with leaders warning that its cash increase of only 1.1 per cent this year leaves it about £160 million short of the review body figure.

Council leaders are claiming that thousands of teaching jobs will be axed and class sizes will rise if they are forced to meet the new bill without help from the Government.

Shephard: accused of passing the buck

Governors are threatening to set illegal budgets in an attempt to meet the pay award — a step that would compel town halls to intervene and take over the running of schools. But the National Association of Governors and Managers yesterday warned members not to break the law.

Phasing of review body awards has been tried in the past and a decision, say, to pay teachers 1.5 per cent now and the rest in the autumn would take some of the strain off cash-strapped town halls.

But senior ministerial and Whitehall sources last night indicated that this option has been discarded. Ministers were adamant that schools could pay a rise of about 2.7 per cent without shedding staff.

The controversy will flare up in the Commons today when Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, will face a Labour attack on the Government's squeeze on school budgets. David Blunkett, the shadow Education Secretary, said last night that ministers could not "pass the buck" to town halls and school governors.

The row will spill into tomorrow's debates when John Redwood, the Welsh Secretary, defends his part of the national local authority settlement. Mr Redwood will retaliate against the Government's critics by claiming that the 2,000 schools in the principality have balances of £50 million from money not spent in previous years. He will argue that they should dip into these reserves to help to meet the cost of the pay award.

Despite the furore being generated across the south of England, ministers appeared confident last night of weathering the storm.

Tory MPs have been bombarded with hundreds of protest letters in recent weeks about the threat to educational standards. However, they have been slow to react because they believe that much of the campaign is being orchestrated by their opponents.

Ministers also pointed out that because many shires are now hung or under Labour or Liberal Democrat control, Tory MPs are less inclined to fight on their behalf.

The Cabinet will also approve pay rises for doctors, nurses, paramedics, the armed forces and senior civil servants and judges on Thursday. Their awards are

Continued on page 2, col 6

An artist's impression of Rosemary West in Dursley Magistrates' Court yesterday for her committal hearing. Drawing: Priscilla Coleman

Media flock to Rosemary West court

BY RICHARD DUCE AND BILL FROST

A QUIET Cotswold town became the centre of international media attention yesterday as a stipendiary magistrate opened a hearing to decide if Rosemary West should stand trial for ten murders.

About 150 reporters and photographers gathered at Dursley Magistrates' Court in Gloucestershire for the first day of committal proceedings against Mrs West, 41, after her husband, Frederick, killed himself in Winson Green Prison on New Year's Day. He had been accused of 12 murders.

Mrs West, formerly of Cromwell Street, Gloucester, is accused of murdering ten women including her daughter and stepdaughter between April 1971 and February last year. Mrs West arrived two hours early at the building, which has been brought back into use at a cost of £17,000 for the estimated week-long hearing. A crowd outside shouted and threw eggs.

Two policemen on motorcycles stopped traffic to let through the van which brought Mrs West on the 20-mile trip from Pucklechurch Remand Centre, near Bristol. Strict security surrounded the packed court. Only six members of the public were admitted — five schoolgirls and a man.

Before the case started Peter Badge, the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, warned journalists that they must confine their reports to specific points under the Magistrates Court Act of 1980. These points limit details of proceedings to the age and identity of Mrs West and the charges against her. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Media representatives from Belgium, Germany, France, Australia and Canada descended on the courtroom. While British journalists are restricted in what they can report, the foreign press may report the proceedings in full, provided their work is not seen in this country.

Wearing a long white blouse, Mrs West spoke only to confirm her name and that she was now of no fixed address. The mother of eight, who is on legal aid, is represented by Sasha Wass. Neil Butterfield, QC, is acting for the Crown Prosecution Service.

Four hours of court proceedings were taken up with legal argument. Mr Badge, 63, has to decide whether there is sufficient evidence against Mrs West to establish a prima facie case.

The bodies of nine of Mrs West's alleged victims were found buried at the house in Cromwell Street and the tenth, her stepdaughter Charmaine, was discovered at the Wests' former home in Midland Road, Gloucester.

Mrs West is accused of the murders of Charmaine West, Shirley Robinson, Shirley Hubbard, Therese Siegenthaler, Lynda Gough, Carol Anne Cooper, Lucy Partington, Juanita Mott, Alison Chambers, and Heather West. She also faces two joint charges of rape with William Smith and Whitley Purcell. The case continues today.

Media in town, page 16

Minister accused in pickaxe dispute

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE political future of Allan Stewart, the Scottish Office minister for industry, was under question last night after he was accused of assaulting a roads protester.

Lindsay Keenan, 30, one of the demonstrators campaigning against the extension of the M77 between Ayr and Glasgow, alleged that Mr Stewart used threatening and abusive language, pushed him and brandished a pickaxe.

Mr Stewart has admitted to picking up the pickaxe for his own safety. He was interviewed by police at Giffnock police station on the outskirts of Glasgow after the incident on Sunday afternoon.

Stewart: "self defence"

Mr Keenan said yesterday that around ten protesters were cleaning out a derelict building on the grounds of Pollok Castle Estate in Glasgow when Mr Stewart, his 16-year-old son Gareth and a group of about six others arrived and started tearing down the protesters' banners.

"He [Stewart] was screaming right in my face and then he pushed a couple of times before giving me a huge hard shove." Mr Keenan said Mr Stewart went to where the protesters' tools were lying and picked up a pickaxe.

Mr Stewart said he had made the visit to the site in anticipation of discussions with the Secretary of State next week. Part of the M77 extension will run through Mr Stewart's Eastwood constituency. "Shortly after arrival, we were rushed by a group of about a dozen protesters. There was a pickaxe at my feet. I freely admit that I was afraid for my own safety and that of my companions and I picked it up to prevent anyone else doing so."

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Hunt on collision course with Nolan

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON
WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is on a potential collision course with the Nolan committee on standards in public life over the rules governing private-sector jobs for former ministers.

David Hunt, who will today present the Government's evidence to the inquiry, yesterday described criticism of former ministers who had gone into business as "outrageous". He said that the Government believed the existing code of conduct for ministers was adequate and stricter rules could discourage talented people from accepting office, he said.

The Government view contrasts with evidence given by a range of former ministers, including Lord Younger of Prestwick and Sir Norman Fowler, who have told the committee that rules are needed similar to those governing former senior civil servants. They These require formal approval of business appointments within two years of leaving. Lord Nolan has said he has not yet reached any conclusions, but a similar system for ministers is clearly finding favour with members of his committee.

Mr Hunt, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, did not refer specifically to Lord Wakeham's appointment two weeks ago as a director at NM Rothschild, the merchant bank, but said: "Unfair attacks should not be used to

Continued on page 2, col 6

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Publishers to sue on cut-price books

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

PENGUIN Books is among leading publishers taking legal action against Asda, to stop the supermarket chain from slashing prices of their best-sellers. In a direct attack on the Net Book Agreement, titles by Frederick Forsyth and Mary Wesley are among a dozen popular paperbacks that cost £1 less at Asda than elsewhere.

A price-war has seen a few booksellers and publishers increasingly tempted to break away from the price-fixing agreement.

But a publishers' spokeswoman said yesterday: "If publishers take legal action, Asda don't have a leg to stand on. They will have broken a contract."

Trevor Glover, managing director of Penguin UK, said: "We will take legal action. The NBA is a legal instrument. We happen to believe it is beneficial to the whole business of reading and writing."

Paul Sherer, managing director of Transworld Publishers said: "We too are taking legal action." Transworld publish Frederick Forsyth's *Fist of God*, whose £5.99 price has been cut by Asda. Mr Sherer said that Asda's decision had come as "a total surprise".

An Asda spokeswoman said that any legal action would be considered "as and when it happens". Sainsbury's, whose supermarkets also stock books, said that they were watching developments "with interest". Safeway said it would match Asda's cuts of £1 on £2 paperbacks.

Asda, which has been selling books since 1970, says it sells more than five million a year. Tony Campbell, the company's trading director, said: "The Net Book Agreement is out of date and keeps prices artificially high. It is ridiculous that a small group of publishers should be allowed to dictate selling prices."

Hodder Headline, Britain's fifth-biggest publisher, is already discounting some of its best-selling authors, and has predicted that others would be forced to follow its lead in pulling out of the NBA.

The director-general of the Office of Fair Trading is to study the agreement which has been reviewed twice before. The agreement is also about to be debated by the National Heritage Select Committee.

The NBA was designed to improve the availability of a wide selection of books to the public through a wide range of outlets. It is also seen as a way of protecting smaller, independent booksellers.

Booksellers sometimes take as much as 45 per cent of a book's price.

New Forsyth bestseller cheaper in supermarket

Power chief defends pay

Ed Wallis, the chief executive of PowerGen and the latest businessman to be put under the public microscope for his highly-paid remuneration package, yesterday defended a potential £1.2 million earned on share options last year.

After helping to launch the Government's £4 billion sale of shares in his company and the larger National Power, Mr Wallis said: "I think I am worth what I am paid. My pay is independently set — I don't negotiate it myself." He said shareholders had done very well..... **Page 23**

EU backs new Balkan summit

French plans for a summit meeting between the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia were backed by the European Union yesterday. The meeting, intended to pave the way for an international conference on the former Yugoslavia, came as the Bosnian Government agreed to consider talks with Serbia on mutual recognition. Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, said: "We should think about this for Bosnia-Herzegovina and Belgrade"..... **Page 12**

Princess speech in Japanese

The Princess of Wales started her three-day working trip to Japan with a visit to disabled and terminally ill children at a Tokyo hospital, where she delighted her audience by delivering her lunchtime speech partly in Japanese. During her visit the Princess also expressed her sympathy for the victims of the Kobe earthquake..... **Page 3**

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UNDERWRITTEN BY COMMERCIAL UNION

Knight of the shires roams Robin Hood country

Sir Jerry: confidence

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

NOT so long ago and perhaps a little belatedly, the Queen knighted Jerry Wiggin (C, Weston-super-Mare). This will have surprised only Jerry Wiggin, who in his own mind had been a knight for decades and must have been a trifle disappointed that Her Majesty took so long to notice. "Mr Wiggin" had never sounded right.

There is something touching about the way self-assurance settles about the shoulders of a middle-aged backbencher. Not, of course, that Sir Jerry lacks distinction. He was Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and food from 1979-81. According to the *Register of Members' Interests*, he is a consultant to British Sugar, an adviser to the British Marine Industries Federation, an adviser to the Weighing Federation and the Security Industry Federation and a consultant to Sears plc. To crown these adornments (and this is what must have swung it with Her Majesty) he is an adviser to the British Holiday and Home Parks Association.

Stuck for small talk at the Honours Investiture ceremony, the Queen could have consulted the register and asked him about his sponsored visit in 1992 to Photokina, Cologne, as the guest of Kodak Limited. Or she might have inquired about the market research for which, apparently, he kindly undertook to visit France in 1993 as a guest of British Midland Airways. Educated at Eton (shooting colours) and Cambridge (shooting colours) and a man of many parts, Sir Jerry radiates a natural dignity and sense of self-worth, such as might befit a sultan of Somerset and nabob of Weston-super-Mare. I like to imagine him helping with the donkey rides.

And Sir Jerry is also a retired tenant farmer. It will have been knowledge gained in this field which led him into the Chamber yesterday afternoon to debate the Agricultural Tenancies Bill (Lords) (Second Reading). Sir Jerry told the Secretary of State, William Waldegrave, that his new Bill was more or less on the right lines.

It is one of the delights of parliamentary life to watch a knight of the shires sharing the special knowledge he has gained with a wider public. Peering over his half moon glasses at Mr Waldegrave, he expressed his pleasure that "the various interested parties have managed to agree".

Sir Jerry began to bristle a little as he described the iniquities of the former system for agricultural tenancies. It was based on "the Robin Hood principle" he said, his colour rising. The rich had been robbed to pay the poor. Tenants had had a good deal. Now, some would "scream their heads off". And "what right" had anyone to be a farmer? Sir Jerry was quivering with outrage.

He moved, briefly ("the fact of the matter is"), to attack county council smallholdings and to touch on the Less Favoured Areas Ewe Premium. Not for nothing had the 93 members of the public now staring down in bafflement from the Strangers' Gallery travelled to Westminster to witness our Mother of Parliaments in action. Around him, the five other backbenchers in the Chamber fidgeted. Upstairs, the two journalists in the Press Gallery rested their pencils.

And I asked myself whether in the history of the world any square yard has ever been occupied by anyone more confident of his opinion, secure in his authority, or disregarded by everybody else, than a Tory backbencher of a certain age and status, debating a specialised subject of which he has personal experience, at half past five on a Monday afternoon?

Hurd slaps down Aitken in Euro appeal for calm

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

DOUGLAS HURD tried to calm Conservative tensions over Europe last night by advising senior politicians to stop speculating on whether they would back a single currency in four or five years.

In what appeared to be an implied rebuke to his Cabinet colleague Jonathan Aitken, the Foreign Secretary said that politicians who were wise would resist the temptation to speculate too far. The day after the Treasury Chief Secretary said: "I do not want a single currency, period, for as far as I can foresee", Mr Hurd said it was both "quixotic and unnecessary" to say yes or no now to an option that might occur in 1999.

Mr Hurd's intervention came after a day of confusion surrounding the Government's European policy, which is to be exploited by the Opposition parties in a Commons debate next week.

Paddy Ashdown announced that the Liberal Democrats would be using a rare parliamentary debate slot to propose a referendum on Europe. He is hoping to attract Labour, the Unionists and the whipless Tories into embarrassing the Government. Downing Street officials confirmed last night that the British Government would be proposing that new factors be taken into account before a decision on a single currency was taken. But they emphasised that the procedure for extending the conditions had always been included in the Maastricht Treaty.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is to spell out details on Thursday. Mr Hurd's speech last night to the Bankers' Club in London followed clear signs of unease within the Government that Mr Major had been interpreted as moving too far down the path of Euro-scepticism in his speech to the Thatcherite Conservative Way Forward group on Friday.

While Conservative sources drew particular attention to a passage in the speech suggesting that Mr Major would be setting new conditions for entry to a single currency, Downing Street chose to highlight Mr Major's remarks refusing to close off the option of going into a single currency, possibly in 1999.

Senior officials emphasised the Government's determination to be involved in discussions in Europe in the run-up to a single currency, irrespective of whether Britain eventually joined. The doubts confirmed the extreme difficulty of Mr Major's task of balancing the opposing forces of his party.

There was strong Cabinet irritation with Mr Aitken yesterday. Even right-wing colleagues felt he had gone well beyond the agreed line in suggesting that a single currency could be decades away and saying that he would "hesitate for an eternity" before agreeing to one.

Mr Hurd emphasised that the Government was keeping its options open after 1996 or 1997. If others pressed ahead at that stage Britain would stay out. But in remarks apparently aimed at Mr Aitken he said: "I believe those who are wise will resist the temptation to speculate too far. Never is as foolish a word as now in this context."

Mr Hurd's words marked another stage in the pro-European counter-attack. He said that between now and the time the decision was made "we need to hear a little less of the politics of the choice and more about its effect on our prosperity and freedoms."

GEORGE STEWART

Security guards at the Pollok Castle Estate in Glasgow, where the incident involving Mr Stewart happened

The minister who loves hedgehogs

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ALLAN STEWART, the Scottish Office minister for industry accused of brandishing a pickaxe at a roads protester, is affectionately known among Scottish Office staff as The Beast of Eastwood.

He looks more like an Edwardian preacher than a politician. His over-riding feature is a pair of long white sideburns that make him appear intimidating and belie his convivial personality.

Mr Stewart, 52, entered Parliament in 1979 as the Conservative MP for East Renfrewshire and has won three subsequent elections. He has been the MP for Eastwood in Strathclyde since 1983, after a redrawing of the boundaries. Eastwood is a tiny Tory oasis in a largely Labour region and his supporters were surprised when he turned in an increased Conservative majority of 11,688 at the last election.

He is considered a good constituency MP and is sometimes criticised for putting Eastwood before his duties as a minister. He describes his recreations in *Who's Who* as "bridge" and "hedgehogs" but his friends say he is not prickly, more the Mr Tiggywinkle of the Scottish Office.

He lacks the aristocratic background of many of his colleagues but sees himself as a natural successor to the suave Scottish Secretary, Ian Lang, a close friend of John Major, who is tipped for promotion.

How the pick-axe wielding incident will affect his career hopes remain to be seen but last night the political storm brewing over the incident did not appear to be subsiding.

His current portfolio includes industry and local government, and friends say he is on rattling good form, a man at ease with his position.

Minister accused, page 1

NEWS IN BRIEF

Big pay cut for hospital manager

The highest paid NHS trust chief executive has taken a pay cut after details of his £160,000 package were revealed.

Shaw Edwards runs the North Middlesex Hospital in Edmonton, which was paying his accountancy firm, Ernst & Young, more than £12,000 a month to employ him for four days a week. He has been appointed full-time on a £90,000 salary.

Ecstasy death

A man has died at the Mirage Nightclub in Windsor, Berkshire, after taking ecstasy, the second death at the club in five months. John William Robjent, 23, from Thame, Oxfordshire, collapsed on the dance floor and died on the way to hospital.

Threat lifted

The Treliske Hospital in Cornwall, accused of leaving a hypodermic needle in a newborn baby's back, has lifted the threat of court action against the baby's parents for return of the needle and says it wants it back "within an acceptable time".

Foxhunt ban

Fox hunting is to be banned on land controlled by the National Trust for Scotland, the trust's council announced yesterday. Animal rights groups are now urging the English National Trust to follow its lead.

Overtime cut

The largest police force in Scotland has stopped overtime payments to officers investigating murders and other serious crimes because of financial cutbacks. Strathclyde has overspent this year's police budget by an estimated £790,000.

Boy hanged

Police were yesterday investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of Anil Choukse, 15, found hanged at his home in Sale, Greater Manchester, on Friday. He was a pupil at Manchester Grammar School.

Tribunal win

WPC Suzanne Box, 37, won an undisclosed sum in damages at an industrial tribunal yesterday after the Metropolitan Police admitted sexual discrimination. She was denied promotion to sergeant because she was pregnant.

McClure dies

Doug McClure, above, an actor best known for his role as a cowboy in the long-running television series *The Virginian*, has died from lung cancer. He was 59. McClure died at his home in the Los Angeles suburb of Sherman Oaks. **Obituary, page 21**

Chess sponsor

Luke McShane, 11, a British chess prodigy who last year became the youngest player to defeat an International master, has gained a £12,000 sponsorship deal from the British computer company Psion.

Chess column, page 5

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Queen Sonja with tiara

Jewel gang removed royal tiara

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

JEWELLERY belonging to Queen Sonja of Norway appears to have been the target of the armed robbers who struck as it was being collected from Garrards in London to be taken to Heathrow Airport.

Police said the gang escaped with seven pieces of jewellery belonging to Queen Sonja, including a £200,000 tiara. The raiders struck as two Garrards guards let themselves into the building off Regent Street on Sunday morning before catching a plane. The getaway car was found near Hatton Garden, where an unscrupulous jeweller could break up the pieces for the individual stones.

The tiara was left to Queen Sonja by her mother-in-law, Queen Maud, and had been in her family since 1896. It was sent to London with other pieces of personal jewellery for repair. Yesterday Garrard put the value of the tiara at about £200,000 but sources in Oslo suggested it could be worth more.

CORRECTION

A report (January 31) incorrectly stated that Rosslyn Chapel was in Kirkcaldy, Fife, rather than Roslin, Midlothian. We apologise for the error.

Ministers dig in

Continued from page 1

expected to be about the current inflation rate of 2.8 per cent. The awards for doctors and nurses are also likely to prove controversial because they will mark the first step towards local pay bargaining. Part of the increase for these groups will be fixed nationally, but part will have to be determined through locally negotiated settlements with the largely autonomous NHS trusts.

But as the argument continued yesterday, school governors were told that plans to stage mass resignations or set illegal budgets in protest would backfire on the pupils and staff.

Faced with the prospect of making teachers redundant and raising class sizes, some governing bodies are threatening to cut the teaching week, while others plan to set deficit budgets or resign en masse.

But Walter Ulrich, spokesman for the National Association of Governors and Managers, said: "Local authorities will be obliged to take over a school's affairs, and they will act more harshly than any governors. An authority is not going to indulge in financial brinkmanship; it will plan sufficient cuts to make the budget balance." The association's strategy is to put pressure on the Government to increase funding next year.

Graham Lane, who chairs the education committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said: "Hard-pressed school governors have our sympathy and support. But the support we can give them does not include more cash, because the Government will not let us."

Right-wing Tories have made clear that they want a tough line on public spending to create room for pre-election tax cuts.

Head teachers and governors also urged the Government to reconsider its refusal to fund the award. David Hart, the General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said in a letter to Mrs Shephard: "Teachers are entitled to a fair and reasonable pay award, but not at the expense of hard-pressed school budgets."

Nolan conflict

Continued from page 1

change a system that is clear and fair." He added: "It is outrageous that allegations have been made against people who have come into politics to serve and have then gone into business."

The Government's view was reinforced in correspondence between the Nolan committee and Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, which was published yesterday.

Answering a question about why ministers had been excluded from the rules governing civil servants and whether the distinction was still valid, Sir Robin says: "Ministers generally lose office abruptly, with limited severance payments and no immediate pension. It would be unreasonable to restrain them from returning to, or taking up, private employment."

He goes on to say: "Advice is given to ministers about outside appointments but it is left to their discretion which appointments to take up, and what interval to allow, after leaving government." Sir Robin suggests that the system is working satisfactorily and has been endorsed by governments of different complexions. "In almost all cases there is some gap between ministers leaving office and taking up outside business appointments," he says.

The Cabinet Secretary will give verbal evidence, alongside Mr Hunt, before the Nolan committee today.

Quango rules, page 10
Leading article, page 10

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Film-makers join race for the life and times of Nixon

Nixon: resigned in disgrace

By Alexandra Frean
Media Correspondent

THE race to produce the definitive film biography of President Richard Nixon has started in Hollywood with stars such as Sir Anthony Hopkins and Tom Hanks tipped for the lead role in rival productions.

Sir Anthony, who is in America to accept an award from the Los Angeles branch of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts tomorrow, is understood to have held several discussions with the writer-director Oliver Stone about starring in a film biography of the disgraced President.

The film, called *Nixon*, opens with the Watergate burglary and then flashes back to various events in the President's life, including his childhood in Orange County, his early California campaigns and his use of television throughout his career such as in his famous "Checkers" speech.

Sir Anthony was originally reluctant to undertake the role because of other film commitments. This summer he is due to start filming another "biopic", *Surviving Picasso*, in which he takes the lead role as the artist in his later years.

According to the film industry magazine, *The Hollywood Reporter*, the actor is reconsidering the Nixon role after seeing Stone's revisions to the script. Bob Palmer, Sir Anthony's US publicist, confirmed that discussions were in progress, but declined to comment further. *Nixon* will be Mr Stone's second work about a US president. His 1991 film, *JFK*, which starred Kevin Costner as a Southern lawyer inquiring into the assassination of President Kennedy, won Oscars for cinematography and editing.

Less than a year after President Nixon's death in April 1994, two other Hollywood companies are also planning films based on the life of the only American head of state to resign from office under threat of impeachment.

HBO, the leading US production company, is developing a feature-length television film with a screenplay by Robert Bolt, writer of the 1965 classic *Doctor Zhivago*. A spokesman for HBO, which is a partner in Anglia Television's film production company, hopes to involve Sir David Frost as producer of the movie.

Sir David, who conducted a series of television interviews with President Nixon in 1976 and 1977, two years after he left office, said: "We have a number of projects in development. One does indeed concern the life of Richard Nixon, but, unfortunately that is all I can say at the moment."

A third film, *The Passion of Richard Nixon*, which concentrates heavily on Nixon's childhood and early career, is also in development. Nick Wechsler, a co-producer on *The Passion*, said that he was waiting to see what Mr Stone was doing with his film before starting on his. According to the *Hollywood Reporter*, the actor Tom Hanks, who starred in *Forest Gump*, has expressed an interest in the lead role.

Mr Wechsler, whose Hollywood production company Addis-Wechsler picked up *The Passion of Richard Nixon* after Hollywood Pictures, the Walt Disney-owned company, abandoned it, said: "Tom Hanks did not commit himself to the film, but he was certainly interested and asked to speak to the writer."

American film producers clearly thought that a film about Nixon would attract worldwide audiences. "Nixon's life is one of the most fascinating in recent history. The events that made him veer off are fascinating. So is the complexity of his psychology and his emotional make-up."

Hopkins: considering role

Four weeks of language coaching and last-minute practice enhance visit to children's hospital

Princess delights Tokyo hosts with speech in Japanese

From Gwen Robinson in Tokyo

THE Princess of Wales started her three-day working trip to Japan with a visit to disabled and terminally ill children at a Tokyo hospital, where she delighted her audience by delivering her lunchtime speech partly in Japanese. The Princess had been coached by a Japanese woman in London.

During her visit to the National Children's Hospital the Princess also expressed her sympathy for the victims of the Kobe earthquake. She said in Japanese: "I am delighted to be here. Last time I was here was four years ago and I am pleased to have the opportunity to visit this hospital today."

Palace aides said the Princess had received coaching from a Japanese woman, "who had been introduced through a friend", for four weeks before the visit. Her unnamed tutor also recorded a tape — used by the Princess on the flight from London — for the trickier aspects of pronunciation and intonation.

Although Japanese speakers present described her Japanese as "hard to understand", the Princess's effort clearly impressed Japanese guests at the luncheon, who included representatives of the hospital and the Peter Pan Children's Fund. The Princess, wearing a demure pastel-pink bouclé suit and sporting her conventional hairstyle, toured the hospital, which was set up in 1965 as the first specialised centre for treatment of sick children in Japan. It has a close working relationship with the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, London.

The Princess was accompanied by Dr Noboru Kobayashi, president of the hospital, who had met her during her first visit to the hospital in 1990, when she accompanied the Prince of Wales to Japan to attend the enthronement of Emperor Akahito.

Japanese interest in the Princess's visit yesterday, however, vastly differed from the frenzied adoration showered on the royal couple in 1990. About 150 Japanese people waited in the cold to catch a glimpse of the Princess. In 1990, more than 100,000 lined the streets.

However, Masaru Nashimoto, a journalist who has covered British royalty in Japan and Britain, said: "Japanese people are still very interested in Princess Diana. First, this is not an official visit — it's much quieter than 1990. It's not just because the earthquake has taken up so much media attention: people feel sorry for the Princess, because her husband is involved with another woman."

Although written Japanese is notoriously difficult to master, the spoken word is easier. Professor J.A. Stockwin, Nissan Professor of Japanese Studies at Oxford University, praised the Princess's efforts. "It will be a great hit in Japan where she is already extremely popular with ordinary people for her personality and aura."

He added: "Spoken Japanese has a great number of vowel-consonant alterations but it has clear, simple vowel sounds like Italian. It can be written in our alphabet and easily read from a prepared text. The spoken language is really not that difficult."

TIM GRAHAM

The Princess of Wales meeting a patient at the National Children's Hospital in Tokyo, which has links with Great Ormond Street

Bride in sea death left first husband

By Dominic Kennedy

THE British bride buried at sea after she died on a yacht in the Indian Ocean had eloped with a mutual friend after deserting her first husband seven years ago, he said yesterday.

Fred Lilly, 74, never knew what became of his wife after she vanished in 1988, leaving a "Dear John" note. Mr Lilly divorced her in 1993 on the ground of desertion, 42 years after their wedding. This weekend, he received the first news of his wife since she left him. He learnt from newspapers that she had wasted away on the stricken yacht as it drifted for two months.

Mr Lilly recognised the yachtsman who buried her at sea: Ashok Baljoresai, who married Pamela in Singapore in August 1994. "He says they met when they were working at a hospital in London but I believe he is the same Ashok who befriended us when we went to Mauritius on holiday," Mr Lilly said.

Mr Lilly, a retired electrical engineer, and his wife used to spend every November in Mauritius, always accompanied by Ashok. "He used to be around every day, bit of a nuisance really. I thought he admired Pam because she was pretty."

When Pamela left in August 1988 Mr Lilly began a new life in West Mersea, Essex. "I put her out of my mind until now and made a new life for myself but this has brought it flooding back. I'm really choked that this has happened to my dear old ex-wife."

Mr Baljoresai, a Mauritian-born British passport holder, moved to England in 1967. His ex-wife Oomila still lives in Essex. At 53, he is considerably younger than Pamela, who was 65 when she died. He was rescued by a Russian cargo ship and taken to Australia, where police gave him permission to leave after being satisfied with his account of how his wife died.

Baljoresai: buried his English wife at sea

Thief used car as murder weapon

By Paul Wilkinson

A MAN aged 77 who tried to stop youths stealing his car died after the driver reversed into him. The impact was so severe that Robert Inchliffe was carried for 30ft spread-eagled against the car body.

Police were stunned by the callous nature of the incident. Detective Inspector Ray Mallon said: "These two youths must be caught and punished for this evil crime. It is much more serious than normal, because the driver on this occasion has used the vehicle as a weapon and killed an innocent man. We are treating it as murder."

Mr Inchliffe, of Hartlepool, Cleveland, died early yesterday from multiple injuries. The incident happened after he and his wife Ethel, 72, had returned to their retirement bungalow at about 10.30pm on Saturday after a night of ballroom dancing.

They left the keys in the car while he went to open the garage, and when he returned moments later a youth was sitting at the wheel with the engine on. Mr Mallon said: "Mr Inchliffe began shouting at the occupant and tried to open the door but it was locked. The thief stalled the car and it rolled forward, leaving Mr Inchliffe at the rear. His wife came out and began banging on the front of the car. The driver accelerated in reverse at such speed that there was a screech of tyres. The car hit Mr Inchliffe with such force he was lifted off his feet and was carried on the rear of the vehicle for about 30ft before he fell from the car.

"The driver was then joined by another youth who got into the passenger side. The vehicle raced off leaving Mr Inchliffe on the floor behind. We think this was an opportunist theft but what really concerns us is the amount of force this youth used to escape. It appears he had a good idea Mr Inchliffe was behind him but he still accelerated right down to the floorboards, leaving this old man spreadeagled across the back of the car."

Mr Inchliffe, a retired miner, had two children and seven grandchildren. Mr Mallon said: "He has been described as a particularly nice and genuine man who was well-liked by all who knew him. He was an active man who enjoyed old-time dancing, gardening and working on his car."

The two thieves, aged between 15 and 20, were wearing dark clothing. The car, a maroon Ford Fiesta, was found abandoned about quarter of a mile away.

Crazed gunman shot father of four

By Paul Wilkinson

A GUNMAN "crazed with drink and drugs" who shot and killed a man with a sawn-off shotgun to steal his car was jailed for life yesterday. The killer and two companions had earlier terrorised a housing estate as they battered on doors in search of transport.

David Fields's victim, Peter Homer, 45, a father of four, died eight days after he was shot at close range in the stomach. In the same incident, a disabled resident of the estate at Coulby Newham, Cleveland, was beaten and two others were robbed.

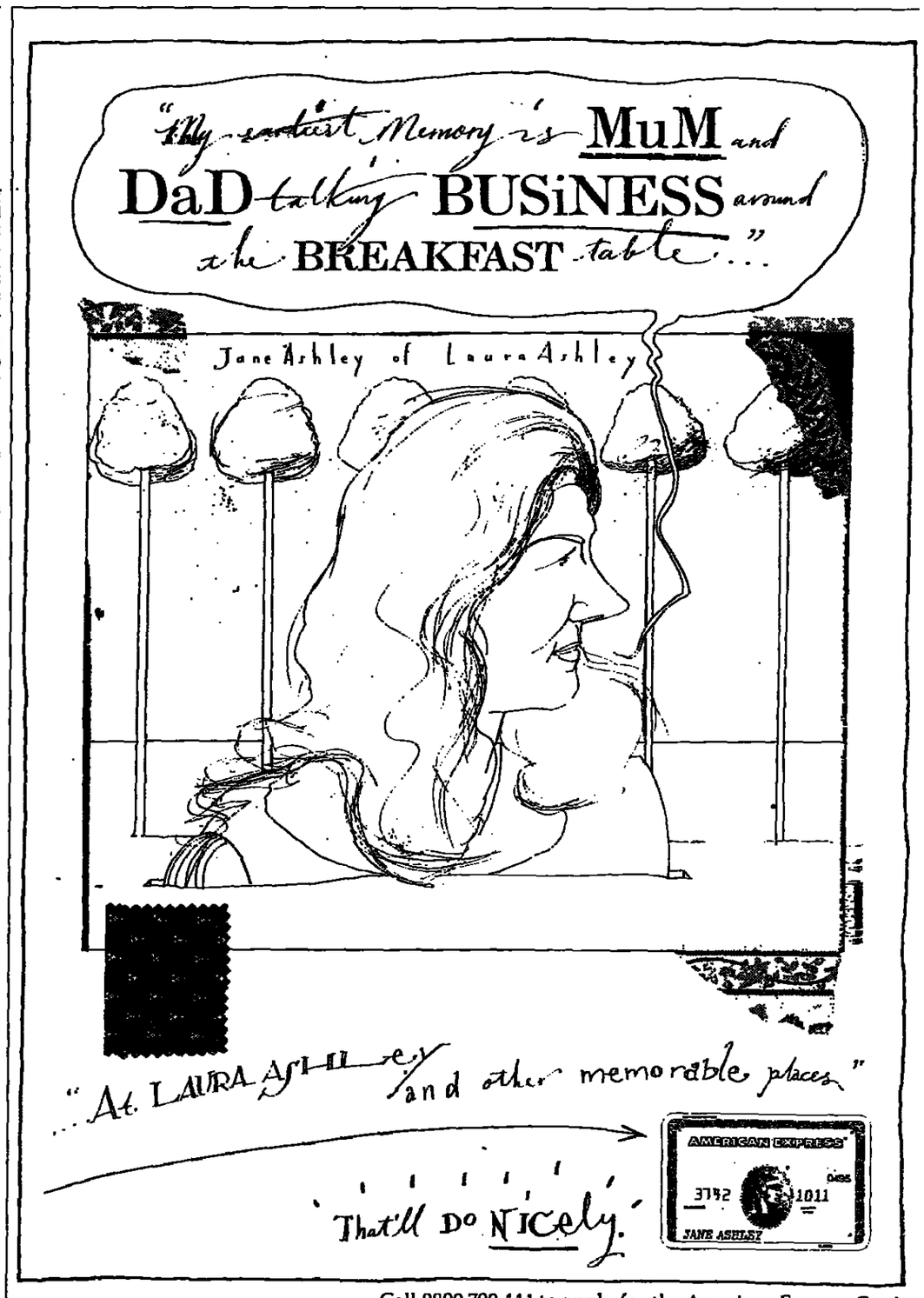
Fields, 29, was jailed for life by Teesside Crown Court after admitting murdering Mr Homer. Peter Walton, 28, was given 14 years and Joanne McDougall, 22, four years. They had admitted manslaughter.

The court was told that at 5.30 am on December 21 1993, the three had met at a drugs party near their homes in Middlesbrough. They took a taxi to Coulby Newham for another party but had the wrong address and agreed to steal a car to get back. Guy Whitburn QC, for the prosecution, said Fields and Walton forced their way into the home of Mrs Jane Fowler, 45, a disabled woman, and demanded her car keys. When she said she did not have a car, Fields smashed her in the face twice with the shotgun butt, breaking her nose and cheekbone.

They went to the house of Mr Homer's son Craig and his wife Claire, who they woke by banging repeatedly on the door. Craig Homer rang his father who arrived within minutes with June, his wife, in the family Rover. McDougall ordered Mrs Homer from the car and got in the back. Walton jumped in the driver's seat. Fields approached Mr Homer and pulled out the shotgun. Mr Whitburn said: "Mrs Homer screamed, 'Oh my God, please leave him alone', at which point, and at point-blank range, he shot him."

The three drove off in the Rover but crashed after a few minutes. They then broke into and ransacked another house and, after threatening two neighbours with the shotgun, loaded property into one of their cars. Walton and McDougall were arrested within 48 hours but Fields, who later claimed to be aiming at Mr Homer's foot, remained at large for nearly three weeks.

Mr Justice Laws told them: "Crazed with drink and drugs, you embarked that December night on an horrific and nauseating rampage of terror. It left a disabled woman beaten and terrified, an innocent man, whose car you robbed, dead, shot in front of his wife, another house was comprehensively ransacked and another man robbed."



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Fire service reforms 'could save 300 lives'

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

HALF the 600 deaths and 12,000 injuries caused by fire in England and Wales each year could be prevented by an overhaul of old-fashioned regulations and more attention to prevention, according to a report published today.

The fire service is hamstrung by inflexible conditions of employment, high levels of retirement for "ill health" and a looming financial crisis over pensions. *In the Line of Fire* says. The Audit Commission study finds that only about 5 per cent of a firefighter's time at work is spent responding to fires. It recommends that more time should be spent on fire prevention, which should be made a statutory responsibility for the country's 54 brigades.

Andrew Foster, Controller of the Audit Commission, said: "The service is anachronistic and long overdue for an overhaul. It is not the performance of the firefighters that is at stake but the whole system of risk assessment and the financing of the services. We need change to bring about a fire service for the 21st century."

The report says that the £1.25 billion-a-year service is hampered by a framework which emphasises responding to fires rather than preventing them: a risk categorisation that takes account primarily of building type and not of developments in building construction; and response times based on historical precedent.

"The overall picture is one of failure by the nation to respond to fire, a problem that each year accounts for 600 lives and costs almost £5 billion," the report says.

It finds that categorisation of areas of risk and response times for appliances have not changed for 37 years and operate on a framework prepared in 1936. Attendance times and the number of appliances sent out to fires are based on four categories of risk, ranging from main shopping and business districts to rural areas. But 54 per cent of serious fires occur in C risk districts, comprising post-war residential areas, compared with 5 per cent in A risk areas, which include commercial centres and industrial estates.

The report says the service nationally is facing financial calamity over the funding of pensions, with estimates that by the year 2007 a quarter of the annual budget will go to meet pension costs.

It recommends more flexible shift patterns, a review of the rank and associated pay structure, and greater monitoring of sickness levels and retirements on health grounds. Between 1985 and 1992 only 29 per cent of firefighters retired normally, whereas 71 per cent took early retirement, of whom 49 per cent went on the ground of ill health and 22 per cent on the ground of injury while on duty.

Ken Cameron, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, said he welcomed the recognition of the increase in the service's workload against a background of serious underfunding and no increase in staffing.

☐ *In the Line of Fire* (Audit Commission; Stationery Office; £10)

Foster: concerned at early retirements

ANDRÉ CAMARA

An archaeologist examines one of the timbers preserved under a layer of peat

Sewer engineers stumble on Neolithic forest

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

REMAINS of a 6,000-year-old forest have been uncovered by Thames Water engineers digging new sewers in east London. Large pieces of oak and yew have been recovered from the excavation in good condition, protected by a layer of peat.

Construction work at the site in East Ham has been temporarily stopped so that archaeologists can study the remains. Lawrence Pontin, an archaeological adviser to English Heritage, said that the find confirms antiquarian records of the remains of an ancient forest in the peat levels. Similar finds were made when the Royal group of docks were constructed and suggest the existence of a forest on the north bank of the Thames east of the River Lea.

"This is a discovery of national interest," Mr Pontin said. "The remains will help us to build up a much better picture of what the area was like all those years ago."

Two methods will be used to date the timber pieces, which are more than 12ft long and almost 18in in diameter. Radiocarbon dating will be supplemented in the case of the oak samples by analysis of the growth rings, whose pattern can be compared to established sequences of rings from elsewhere in Europe. No such sequence exists for yew, though the finds may help to establish one. Mr Pontin said. Newham Museum Service and the Museum of London Environmental Service will do the analysis.

Mr Pontin said that the original forest died when conditions changed. "It got wetter, either because of increased rainfall or because of flooding," he said. "The trees died, the soil became more acid, and they were preserved by a layer of peat."

Although the dating has not yet been done, Mr Pontin is confident that the timber goes back to the Neolithic age 6,000 years ago. "What we are looking at here is the base of the peat sequence," he said. "Then the area was covered by a large forest, before conditions changed, the trees died and the peat began to build up."

The Thames Water engineers who made the find were working on an £8 million scheme for more than two kilometres of sewer tunnels in East Ham. Stuart Windsor, project manager for Thames Water, said: "When planning projects, we always consult records to ensure that sites of historical or environmental interest are not disturbed unnecessarily. In the tunnelling business you learn to expect the unexpected."

Bombs found on animal lorries

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

FOUR incendiary bombs have been found attached to lorries used by a haulage company specialising in the transport of livestock, police said yesterday. The devices, which are presumed to have been planted by animal rights extremists, failed to ignite and were safely dismantled by an Army bomb disposal unit.

An employee of the firm at Billing, near Northampton, raised the alarm on Sunday morning after he saw suspicious-looking objects. Police evacuated a house and pub next to the yard where the lorries were parked while they searched the premises.

The incident came a day after the delivery of letter bombs to field sports enthusiasts elsewhere in Northamptonshire and to a farm in North Yorkshire involved in livestock exports.

Police fear the bombs could presage a campaign of violence by animal rights fanatics after the death of Jill Phipps, the woman crushed beneath the wheels of a livestock lorry outside Coventry airport last week.

Seven protesters who were arrested after storming the Palace of Westminster on Sunday and unfurling banners in remembrance of Ms Phipps were released yesterday without charge. The group sailed down the Thames from Putney in a motorised inflatable dinghy and scaled the embankment wall with a ladder to reach the Houses of Parliament via the members' terrace.

Peter Atkinson, Tory MP for Hexham, yesterday defended his part in a Tory filibuster last Friday which scuppered a Labour-sponsored private member's Bill banning the export of calves.

In retaliation, about a dozen demonstrators climbed on to the roof of Mr Atkinson's home in the village of Birtley, Northumberland, on Sunday afternoon and threw tiles to the ground. Neither he nor any other member of his family was in the house at the time. "The sponsors of the Bill know perfectly well that Britain cannot stop what is a lawful trade", he said.

Gummer urged to rescue ugliest nature site

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

A 12,000-year-old peat bog known as Britain's ugliest nature reserve will be made into a rubbish tip unless the Environment Secretary intervenes, environmentalists said yesterday.

The proposal to make Red Moss in Bolton into a refuse site has been drafted by the local council in its unitary development plan. Last month the area was listed as a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) by English Nature, wildlife adviser to the Government.

Environmentalists, who are urging John Gummer to act in line with national and European wildlife rules, said the scheme would destroy the site. Simon Festing, of Friends of the Earth, said yesterday: "At first sight Red Moss could only be described as grim. Bounded by a motorway, a railway, abandoned industrial workshops and a rubbish tip, it could be the ugliest wildlife site in the country. A closer look, however, shows that it supports an intricate system of wildlife including nine species of sphagnum moss, dragonflies and the long-eared owl. Snipe and teal breed on the open mossland."

Peat bogs, natural sites which have greatly declined because of drainage and harvesting, were described as "important on a global scale" by the Government after the Rio Earth summit. They are also protected under the habitat directive of the European Union.

Bolton Metropolitan Council said yesterday that a government inspector had described the site as degraded, polluted and barren. "He said that the importance of finding a site for disposal outweighed its ecological interest. The council will be objecting to its listing as an SSSI," a spokesman said.

The Secretary of State yesterday launched Going For Green, an initiative that aims to encourage people to adopt lifestyles that cause less pollution. A committee, which includes Sir David Attenborough, will advise the Government on schemes to help householders to reduce their waste and conserve resources.

Friends of the Earth said the initiative could help to save the Red Moss bog. A survey by the Department of the Environment in 1993 showed that Bolton recycled only 3 per cent of its waste, and Friends of the Earth said increased recycling would reduce the need for more refuse sites.

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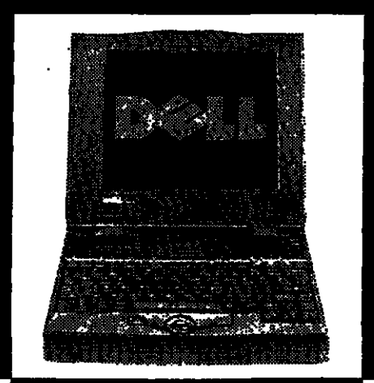

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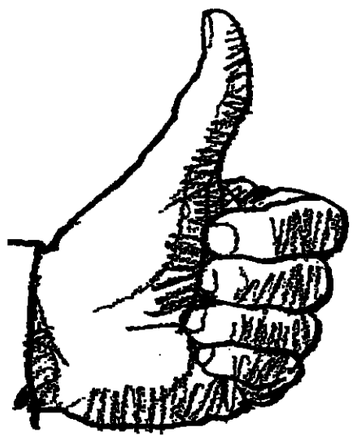

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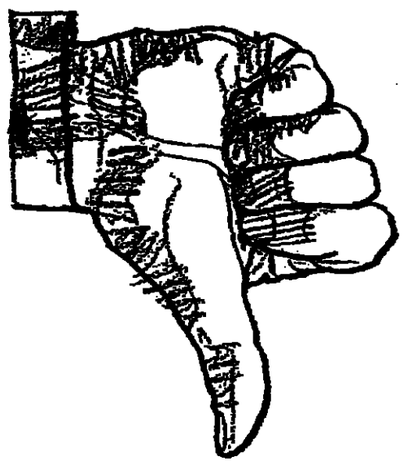

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Solicitor trampled by cows wins fight for compensation

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A SOLICITOR who was attacked and trampled by a herd of cows has won £45,000 damages in what is thought to be the first case of its kind. David Birch was awarded the damages against the insurers of a farm in Northamptonshire after a three-year fight for compensation.

Mr Birch, 45, by luck an insurance litigation solicitor, was walking his two dogs — a labrador and a border collie — on a gated road (a public highway with gates across it) close to the village of Winwick in September 1991.

He said: "A breed of Charolais cows, with their calves which were nearly fully grown, just over 30 cattle in all, were grazing at the side of the field and they took an interest in my two dogs, which were on leads."

The cows had come over to "eyeball" his dogs. "They were facing up to them and others came round behind me. I thought, 'if I let go, the dogs will run amok and cause havoc'. The next thing I knew I had been knocked over from behind."

Mr Birch, a partner in Wragge & Co, a Birmingham law firm, was repeatedly knocked over and trampled by the herd. "I thought I was going to die," he said yesterday. "Every time I stood up, they knocked me down. One even tried to roll on me."

He was eventually rescued and spent four weeks in hospital with broken ribs, a cracked knee, dislocated collar bone and damaged wrist. "Hardly anything wasn't damaged." A further 10 days in hospital followed later when he developed potentially fatal blood clots.

Birch: wanted to make others aware

Mr Birch decided to pursue a claim with the insurers of Winwick Grange Farm, National Farmers Union Mutual, who resisted the claim on the grounds that the accident was not foreseeable and that he was responsible in that he had the dogs on leads.

The case came to Birmingham County Court two weeks ago. Mr Birch said: "Quite apart from securing some compensation for my personal losses, I wanted to obtain judgment so that if this misfortune happened to anyone else, at least they would be aware of this ruling and insurers would not be able to contest a claim next time round."

Susan Dearden, a solicitor with Wragge & Co who helped Mr Birch with his claim, said: "We are not aware of any other cases like this going to court, although we are aware of other attacks on people with dogs. A woman was reported to have been killed in 1992 by cattle."

She added: "I think it is very important that the public are made aware of the dangers inherent in walking across fields containing cattle, particularly when accompanied by dogs. There is a general assumption that cows are harmless. David's case, and others, clearly show that they are not although the trigger factor does seem to be the presence of dogs."

Mr Birch had nearly been killed in the attack and other walkers were at risk unless farmers warned pedestrians and moved cattle to fields not crossed by public paths or roads, she said.

RICHARD RAYNER

Dean Scott, left, and Ray found driving their father's car was child's play

Toddlers take 150mph car for a quick spin

BY PAUL WILKINSON

TWO joyriders who disarmed three security systems to drive off in a high-powered sports car were discovered by police to be the owner's sons, aged two and three. They had decided to give the family cat a trip round the block.

Dean Scott and his younger brother Ray had travelled 20 yards down the road in the 150mph Toyota Supra when they were stopped. They usually do their driving in a battery-operated car.

While their parents slept the boys had slipped downstairs at the family home in Darlington, Co Durham, and taken the car keys from a high shelf after climbing on to a coffee table.

They ran out to the car parked at the kerb and used the electronic beam on the key fob to switch off the alarm and unlock the car. Next the boys turned off the fuel cut-out and an immobiliser before starting the engine.

A neighbour who heard the noise and saw the car moving raised the alarm. The boys' father, Edward Scott, 29, said: "The first I knew about it was when a policeman came in the bedroom and woke me up, asking 'Do you know these young joyriders?'"

He said his sons must have evaded the car's security features "from memory after watching me. It had moved maybe 20 yards. They must have put it in gear themselves. They had wanted to take the cat Calypso for a ride around the block. When you split the boys up they can be as good as angels, but once they are together they are a real handful, very mischievous.

"I think I'll have to get a burglar alarm on the house so the kids can't break out. Now we've stressed to them how naughty they were, hopefully they won't do it again."

Inspector John Walker said: "Thankfully it has all ended harmlessly and we can see the funny side, but the consequences could have been very serious if they had travelled any distance."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In the Macallan Pairs Zia had this unpleasant decision. He held:

♠10 ♥AKJ9874 ♦AK72 ♣6

At Game All his right-hand opponent open Two Clubs, either an Acol Two Clubs or a diamond pre-empt (they allow that sort of bid in the grown-ups' game). What action would you take? Zia passed and this was how the auction developed:

W	N	E	S
Robson	Sharif	Forrester	Zia
—	—	2♣	Pass
2♦ (1)	2♠	Pass	3♦ (2)
Dble	3♠	Pass	6♥ (3)
Dble	All pass		

1 To play in Two Diamonds if East has the weak type.
2 Somewhat stuck for a bid — East's pass showed he had the weak type.
3 No doubt losing patience — it's difficult to see an intelligent way of proceding from here.

This was the full deal

Dealer East — Game all. IMPs

North: ♠AJ87654 ♥10 ♦63 ♣1074
West: ♠KQ32 ♥Q632 ♦5 ♣AKQ9
East: ♠9 ♥5 ♦QJ10984 ♣J8532
South: ♠10 ♥AKJ9874 ♦AK72 ♣6

When Zia emerged from the bushes with Six Hearts he was promptly mugged by Robson, who doubled and made the excellent lead of a trump for down three and +800.

The trouble with passing on hands like Zia's on the first round is that frequently you have to make a wild guess later. Admittedly, if Zia had bid Four Hearts over Two Clubs he might have been missing a slam, but nevertheless that strikes me as a more practical action.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Fide matches

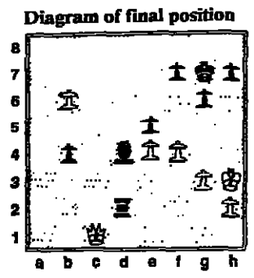
The semi-finals of the Fide world championship started yesterday in Sanghi Nagar, India. Gata Kamsky (United States) is facing Valery Salov (Russia) in one match, while Anatoly Karpov (Russia) is challenged by the Belorussian grandmaster Boris Gelfand in the other. In the first round, Kamsky adjourned with a significant advantage, while Gelfand drew with Karpov. Karpov is the clear favourite in his contest but his opponent is not likely to be overawed. This 1992 game demonstrates Gelfand's capabilities.

White: Gelfand
Black: Karpov
Moscow 1992

Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	b6
4	a3	Bb7
5	Nc3	d5
6	Qc2	Nbd7
7	cxd5	Nxd5
8	Nxd5	Bxd5
9	e4	Bb7
10	Bb5	c6
11	Bxc6	Rc8
12	d5	Qc7
13	Nd4	Bxc6
14	Nxc6	Nb8
15	Be3	Nxc6
16	Rc1	Bc5
17	dxc6	Qxc6
18	0-0	0-0
19	b4	Bxe3
20	Qxc6	Bxc1
21	Qa4	Rc7
22	Rd1	g6
23	g3	Rfc8
24	Rd7	Bb2
25	Kg2	Kg7
26	f4	Bc3
27	Qd1	a5
28	Rxc7	Rxc7
29	Qd6	Rc4
30	Qd3	b5
31	a4	axb4
32	axb5	Rd4
33	Qe3	e5
34	b6	Rd7
35	Qc5	Rd2+
36	Kh3	Bd4
37	Qc1	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Winning Move, page 44

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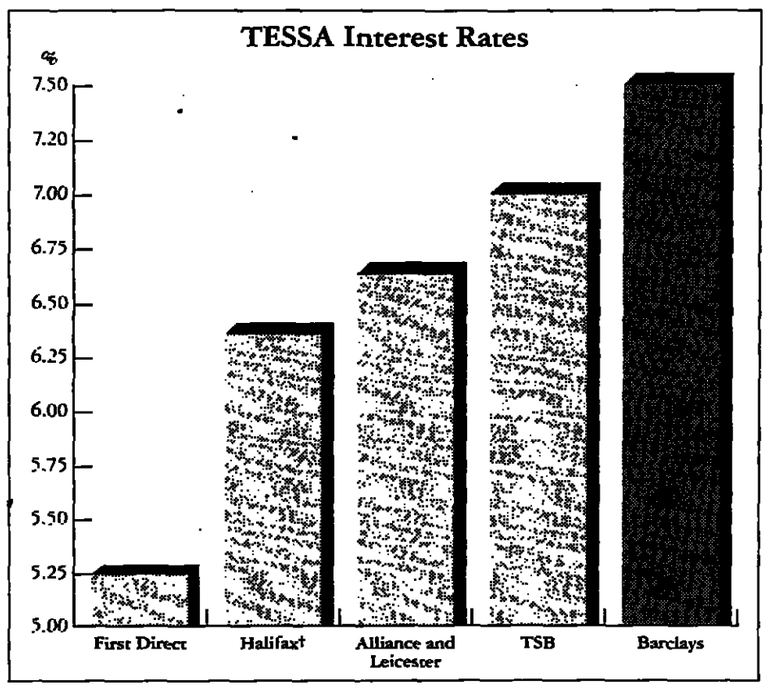

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Here is the news: BBC will open its doors to tourists

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

THE BBC is to open Broadcasting House to visitors next year to demonstrate its commitment to public accountability. The corporation is building a visitors' centre in the basement of the art-deco building just off Oxford Street and estimates that it will attract more than 200,000 people a year.

Adults will be charged £4.95, pensioners £3.95 and children £3.35 for entrance and a 40-minute guided tour during which they will see archive material about the history of radio and television and a film describing how the BBC began. The venture could generate more than £800,000 in income, but a spokesman said the BBC did not expect to make a large profit. "The entrance fees are to cover the cost of the visitors' centre and the running costs of the tours," he said.

The tours are likely to increase the sale of BBC merchandise, such as videos, books and magazines. Consumer products are becoming an increasingly important source of revenue and contributed £76 million to the BBC's income in 1993-94.

Colin Browne, director of corporate affairs, said: "It is absolutely right that an organisation such as the BBC should be able to open its doors to the public. It is another important step in being close to the people who pay for what we do."

The project has been approved by the London Tourist Board, which the BBC is soon to join. Broadcasting House is home to Radios 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Live and houses the offices of the Director-General, John Birt. The first broadcast from the 1928 building went out on the Home Service (now Radio 4) on March 15, 1932, and featured music from the bandleader Henry Hall.

The building, designed by G. Val Myers, was bombed in 1940 in the middle of the *Nine O'Clock News*. Seven people were killed in the blast but the newsreader, Bruce Belfrage, continued the bulletin.

During the guided tours visitors will be able to see how news is gathered and to watch radio programmes being recorded in a studio theatre. They will also be able to try reading the news or weather forecast in a special studio and editing suite. Visitors will leave the building through a "future tunnel", which will contain an exhibition on the way ahead for broadcasting.

Michael Barton, who is developing the project, said the BBC was expecting considerable interest from holiday companies that operate tours to London. "There is a touch of mystery about Broadcasting House and an exhibition centre inside the building itself, with all its history, will make a visit there immensely appealing," he said.

The BBC has commissioned Event Communications, the London-based exhibition design company, to create a "high-technology, audio-visual" blueprint for the visitor centre with an emphasis on radio. There are no plans at present to open Television Centre in west London to the public.

US stars flock to Bard on a budget

By A Staff Reporter

AMERICAN screen stars accustomed to six and seven-figure pay deals have received about £150 each to perform a Shakespeare play for BBC Radio. The cast, including Richard Dreyfuss and the *Cheers* actor Kelsey Grammer, will earn the Equity minimum rate for their parts in *Julius Caesar* on Radio 3.

Dreyfuss plays Marc Antony, Grammer is a tribune and Stacy Keach, who portrayed the private eye Mike Hammer, is Marcus Brutus. "These big names have been paid peanuts for the play but they felt there was a certain kudos in doing Shakespeare for British radio," the corporation said.

"We just don't have the money to pay them the kind of fees they would normally attract but they all seemed to think it would add to their respectability as actors."

***Julius Caesar*, to be broadcast on February 26, is a co-production by the BBC and Los Angeles Theater Works. It took ten days to record in the United States in November. The cast also includes Bonnie Bedelia, seen in Bruce Willis's *Die Hard* films, as Calpurnia and Hal Gould, Rose's boyfriend in the *Golden Girls*, as Caesar**

***Julius Caesar* is the latest in a series of co-productions with Los Angeles. The collaboration started in 1988 with Michael York, Dreyfuss and Keach in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.**

Dreyfuss: will be paid Equity minimum rate

ANDRÉ CAMARA

The Health Secretary fielding viewers' questions in a BBC studio for *Westminster On Line* yesterday

Bottomley goes on line, phone, video and fax

By Nick Nuttall

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY did her bit for the spirit of the computer age yesterday by becoming the first British politician to field live questions over the Internet.

Television viewers watching the morning programme *Westminster On Line* on BBC2 were able to question the Health Secretary by humble telephone or fax machine. Others turned to the videophone or computer terminals plugged into the Internet, and several of their questions were picked for Mrs Bottomley to answer.

☐ Plans to create a £15 billion national computer network, linking all schools, hospitals and libraries, will be unveiled by Labour next week (Arthur Leathley writes). The party has teamed up with senior members of the Clinton administration to put together clear plans to introduce the cable network.

Labour will call on commercial cable companies to connect the entire country to the network, with the costs of laying cable and providing links to schools and hospitals being borne entirely by the companies rather than the Government.

Badger gang put radio bug on dogs

By A Staff Reporter

FOUR men fitted radio transmitters to terriers so that they could find and trap badgers several feet underground, a court was told yesterday. The devices, attached to the dogs' collars, allowed the gang to pinpoint badgers cornered in a sett so that they could then dig them out.

The men were caught red-handed by police after a tip-off from a walker who spotted them in woods at Llechryd, Dyfed.

A search of their van disclosed two Ordnance Survey maps with more than 60 badger setts marked. At one of the sites the body of a recently killed badger was found. Its ears had been ripped off and its skull smashed, magistrates at Tenby were told in a prosecution brought by the RSPCA.

The men admitted attempting to kill, injure or take a badger and interfering with a sett. They were Brian James, 23, Paul Brain, 31, and Andrew Mullaly, 25, all from Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, and John Hill, 34, of Resolven, West Glamorgan.

When caught, the men said they were trying to dig up a dog which had become stuck.

They were each ordered to carry out 240 hours' community service, pay fines and costs of £1,500, and were banned from keeping dogs for five years. The magistrates ordered that the tracking equipment be destroyed.

Hepatitis boy may sue over contaminated blood agent

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

A BOY aged 15 who suffers from haemophilia is planning to sue the Government for negligence after he contracted hepatitis C from contaminated blood products.

Kenneth Ferguson, from Strathclyde, was told five months ago that he had the virus. Doctors believe that he contracted the disease in 1984 from contaminated Factor 9, a blood-clotting agent.

If the case comes to court it will be the first of its kind in Britain and its success would open the way for the 3,000 haemophiliacs who have contracted hepatitis C to pursue legal action. A spokesman for the Haemophilia Society said two cases in England had been settled before they reached court. The Government has denied liability for the contamination of haemophiliacs with hepatitis C. In 1991, after a sustained campaign, it paid £42 million to patients given blood infected with HIV. The Haemophilia Society is pressing for the same level of compensation for hepatitis C victims.

Kenneth suffers from Christmas disease, a form of haemophilia which leads to internal bleeding. When he is ill he needs three injections a week of Factor 9. In 1984 Salisbury Hospital supplied the family with a batch of the blood-clotting agent that doctors believe came from an infected batch.

Kenneth's father Patrick Ferguson, who has retired from the Army, says that he wants his son to be financially secure. "He faces a life of not having children because he must practise safe sex," he said. "He can't have a drink because of the effects on his liver. What are his chances of marrying? His career prospects are hindered."

☐ Hundreds of patients of a doctor carrying the hepatitis B virus were urged yesterday to have blood tests. The unnamed doctor is an orthopaedic surgeon for Scarborough and North East Yorkshire Health Care NHS Trust but has stopped clinical work. He previously worked at Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham, Humberside.

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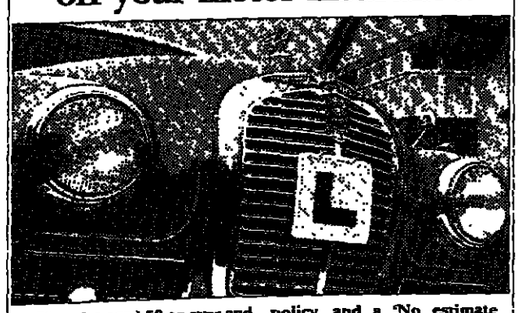

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Police pay £10,000 for 60p arrest

By A Staff Reporter

A MAN accused of stealing 60p from a schoolboy won £10,000 agreed damages from the Metropolitan Police yesterday. Gareth Phillips, of Chelsea, southwest London, sued for wrongful arrest, negligence and malicious prosecution after he spent almost five months in custody.

Mr Phillips was accused of robbing Raymond Sadri, 10, of 60p outside the Man in the Moon pub in the King's Road, Chelsea. The boy described his assailant as 5ft 9ins with a green tattoo on his right arm. Mr Phillips, who repeatedly protested his innocence, said he could not have been the attacker because he is 6ft 3ins with no tattoo.

When his case came before Southwark Crown Court in February 1992 the prosecution offered no evidence and Mr Phillips was found not guilty. Patrick O'Connor, QC, for Mr Phillips, told Mr Justice Alliott at the High Court in London that a settlement had been reached.

The Metropolitan Police, who did not admit liability, have agreed to pay Mr Phillips £10,000 but may retain up to £4,000 to cover their legal costs.

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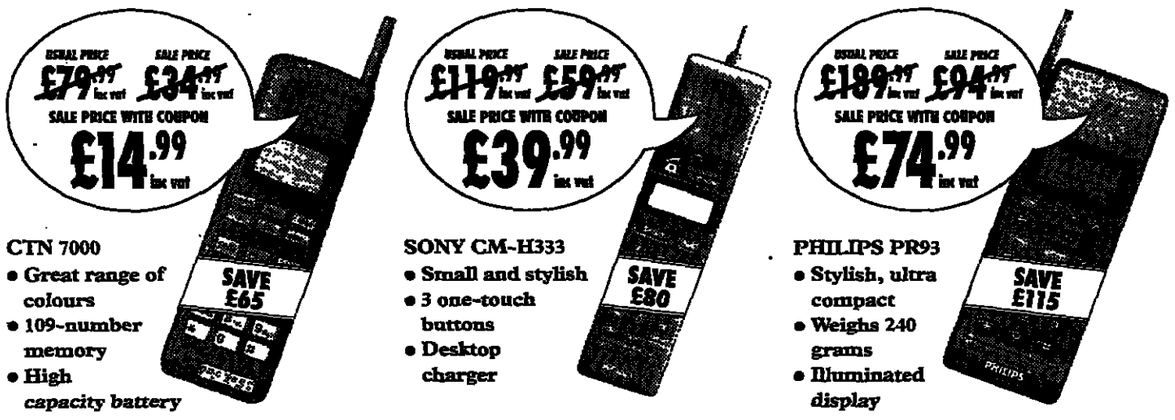

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Turner Prize sculptor says his statue with a 169ft span will bring life and activity to North East

A towering £300,000 steel angel splits town

By Dalya Alberge, Arts Correspondent

SPENDING £300,000 on a sculpture when there are holes in the road and people sleeping in street doorways has divided the residents of Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

That the sculptor is Antony Gormley, winner of the 1994 Turner Prize and an outstanding contemporary British artist, has done little to placate objectors. Although planning permission has been granted to allow a 63ft steel angel with a 169ft wingspan to be sited near the gates of the town, the dispute continues.

More than 4,000 residents signed a petition against the statue being erected, according to Noel Rippeth, the Liberal Democrat who has led Gateshead Borough Council's opposition to the sculpture. "And that was on just two Saturday mornings. People were actually queueing to sign it." A telephone poll conducted by a local newspaper had shown 250 people in favour of the sculpture and 1,219 against.

One of his main objections is the statue's size and that it might be a dangerous distraction for motorists on the A1. Its design was "too reminiscent of large statues used by totalitarian states from time immemorial". One local paper likened it to Albert Speer's visualisation for a statue of Icarus to celebrate the Luftwaffe's crack Richthofen Squadron.

Although commissioned by the council, there is no council money involved and much of the funding comes from regional and national arts bodies. Mr Rippeth said: "Wherever the money's coming from, it could have been better spent."

However, among supporters of the statue, Pat Conaty, a Labour councillor, described it as a symbol of peace not power, and others spoke of how it could put Gateshead on the arts map.

Gormley, 44, famous for casting his own body into sculptures, reacted to the opposition in Gateshead by speaking of "this built-in genetic resistance that the English race has to anything called art. I don't know where it comes from." He added: "Speer was an extraordinary architect. I didn't know he did sculpture as well. We are both interested in reinventing the angel."

Beyond that, he said, there were no comparisons to be made. Most surprising of all, though, is that objections were voiced before anyone had actually seen the sculpture, the model for which is shown publicly for the first time today in *The Times*.

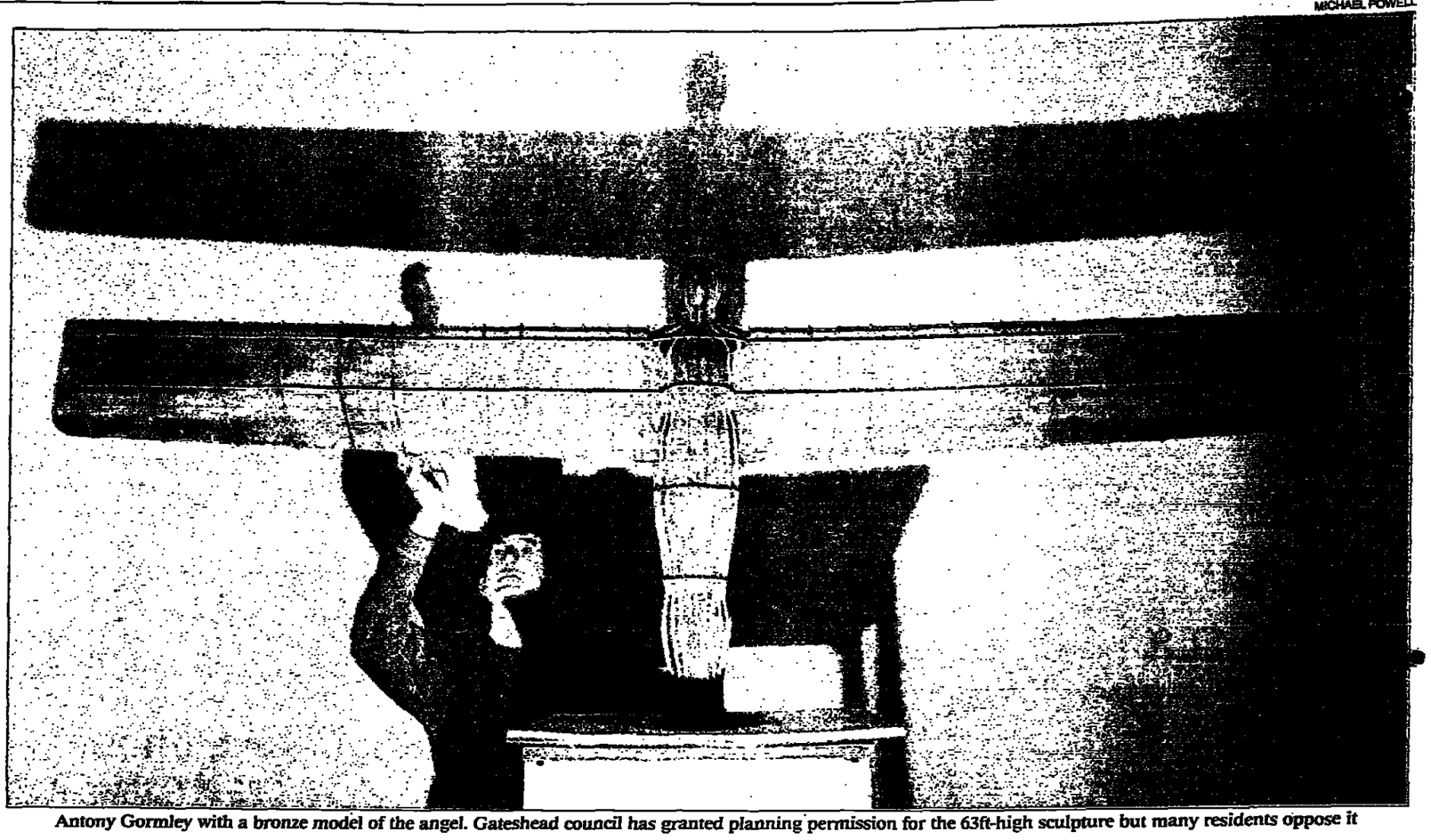
Gormley said people had seen only a thumb-nail sketch, which he had drawn while on the train to Gateshead. "It's extraordinary to me that people would rather have nothing than something that brings life and activity to the region," he said.

Alan Sykes, spokesman for Northern Arts, spoke of the sculpture being an important landmark for northern England as a whole. Its construction would also create work. Sandy Nairne, director of public services at the Tate Gallery, expressed surprise at the reactions. He spoke of being struck by the way the sculpture, imbued with a spirituality, seemed to represent a sense of the region. "It is a tremendously strong symbol about nature and life, life in relation to nature, a symbol of the power of the North East. Its huge wingspan, suggesting the idea of flight, seems to represent human achievement and aspiration."

For Gormley, history is repeating itself. Only a few years ago he divided the people of Leeds with his plans for a 120ft brick man. However, the council lost heart "as a result of a similar campaign of misinformation". That project, he added, was "sleeping but not dead".

Ove Arup, the structural engineers, will be offering specialist advice on the installation of the sculpture, ensuring that it can withstand the fiercest winds. Gormley's angel will form part of the Gateshead council's contribution to "1996, Year of the Visual Arts", a celebration of the role of the arts in the North. The council is also intending to convert the disused Baltic Flour Mills that dominate the south bank of the Tyne into an international gallery for the visual arts.

MICHAEL POWELL



Antony Gormley with a bronze model of the angel. Gateshead council has granted planning permission for the 63ft-high sculpture but many residents oppose it

Mawhinney promotes safer driving with insurance discount for young

Mawhinney: youth drive

By Jonathan Prynn
Transport Correspondent

THE Government has launched a campaign to reduce the annual carnage of young drivers on Britain's roads with an offer of insurance discounts for newly qualified motorists who take extra driving lessons after their tests.

Under the Pass Plus scheme, announced yesterday by Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, new drivers will be entitled to insurance premium reductions of up to £100 in their first year of driving. People who sign up for the scheme within a year of passing their test will receive six lessons concentrating on areas not tested by the examiner, including motorway driving, night driving and coping with bad weather conditions. It will also teach courtesy and consideration for other road users. Although the Pass Plus scheme is aimed mainly at the young it is open to drivers of all ages.

Drivers under 21 have borne the brunt of recent rises in car insurance premiums largely because of their poor accident record. They are four times as likely to make an insurance claim than a 40-year-old. "There is a widespread recognition that the first few years of driving are quite clearly the most dangerous years," Dr Mawhinney said.

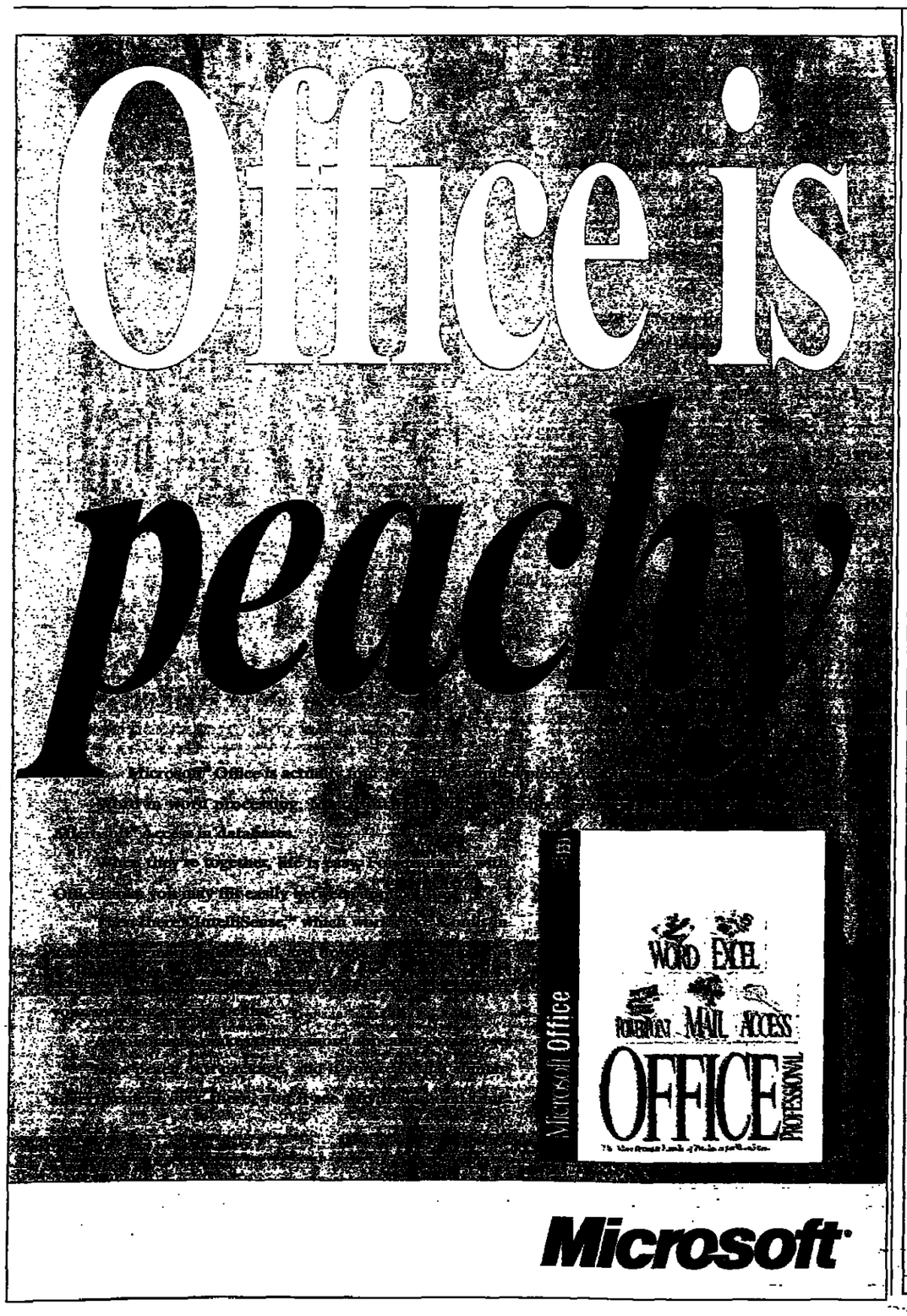
More than 1,000 people a year in Britain are killed in accidents involving drivers aged 21 or under, about a quarter of all road deaths. Driving accidents account for three quarters of all accidental deaths among 16 to 19-year-olds. Pass Plus, supported by more than 20 insurers and two brokers, will cost drivers between £70 and £100, effectively wiping out the one-off saving on the insurance premiums. However, the Government argues that taking the course makes drivers less prone to accidents early in their driving careers and therefore more likely to qualify for a no-claims bonus.

About 6,000 approved driving instructors have been signed up to the scheme. At least one insurer is offering a refund of the cost of the lessons. Typical savings will be £80 to £90 on fully comprehensive policies and £35 to £40 on third party, fire and theft cover. But for drivers in the highest risk category, the savings could be much larger. A 17-year-old newly qualified male Ford Escort driver living in Birmingham, for example, would see his premium slashed by £464 from £2,330 to £1,866 if he completed the Pass Plus course.

Pass Plus is the first in a series of initiatives planned by the Government to improve the safety record of young drivers and remove the scourge of "boy racers" from Britain's roads.

The other three are a programme of road safety education for the 16-plus age group; an extension of the theory element of the driving test and a private member's Bill to require newly qualified drivers to retake their tests once they accumulate six penalty points.

The Bill, which was introduced by Michael Clark, a Tory backbench MP, received its second Commons reading last Friday.



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Why dieting can be more deadly than middle-age spread

By Robin Young

PEOPLE over 50 are better off being fat than thin, a report in the Consumers' Association magazine *Which? Way to Health* says today, citing research which suggests that losing weight can be risky for those in middle age.

The magazine says that research in the United States and South Wales showed that heavier patients, with ample reserves of nutrients, were better able to survive illness or surgery. Some of the reseach dates back to 1985 when the US National Institute of Ageing published an analysis of 106,000 deaths and 4.2 million insurance policies, showing that among older people those with higher ratios of weight to height lived longer.

The new Consumers' Association report says that in Norway 1.7 million patients were followed for ten years. The 470,574 deaths among them showed that at ages over 35 death rose as the ratio of weight to height became lower. It also rose as the ratio got higher, but more slowly. A middling ratio was best, but higher was better than lower.

The Consumers' Association article also says most studies comparing changes in body weight with death rates showed an association between weight loss and higher death rates. The lowest death rate accompanied moderate increase in body weight.

The report says that while heavy weight increases were linked to higher death rate, slimming can damage health by reducing the number of cells in body systems, slowing down cell renewal, and impairing natural body maintenance. An extreme diet could reduce body protein as well as body fat. David Dickinson, the editor of the magazine, said yesterday: "Advice that everyone with a higher ratio of height to weight is too fat and should slim is mistaken. Slimming can damage your health quite independently of its effect on the height to weight ratio. Most people over fifty do not need to slim."

Professor Tom Sanders, Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics at King's College London, said yesterday: "The health risks of obesity are often exaggerated. It does increase the risk of diabetes and arthritis, but the health risks of plumpness are negligible. It may even offer advantages to women."

John Garow, former Rank Professor of Human Nutrition at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said: "Obesity is the most common nutritional disease, but dieters risk nutritional deficiencies if they try to achieve abnormal thinness for aesthetic reasons."

Dr Martin Wiseman, of the Department of Health nutrition unit, said: "At any age it is important not to be too fat or too thin. Eating sensibly and keeping active is the best way of achieving this but as we get older being plump is better than being thin."

High fees deter dental patients

Higher charges are deterring people from visiting the dentist, a Consumers' Association survey shows. More than a quarter of 1,035 people questioned had not visited a dentist in the past 18 months, the report in *Which? Way to Health* says. Excluding those who had no need to go, 41 per cent claimed the reason was that charges were too high.

Drugs hamper epileptics' chance to lead normal life

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

AT LEAST 100,000 epilepsy patients are suffering from the side-effects of drugs taken to control their condition, a survey says.

Most of Britain's 350,000 epilepsy sufferers are taking drugs developed up to 20 years ago that make it difficult for more than half to lead an active life. Although the drugs control seizures in up to 80 per cent of patients, the survey found that between a quarter and a half of them complained of side-effects including tiredness, loss of memory, headaches, tremor and dizziness.

The survey of 4,300 patients, carried out for the Wellcome Foundation in association with the British Epilepsy Association, found that although most had once worked full-time, nearly half were unemployed and a quarter said they had they lost their job because of epilepsy.

Terry O'Leary, chief executive of the association, said: "These results show that people with epilepsy should see their doctor regularly. Their treatment should be reviewed if their seizures are not well-controlled or if they suffer from unacceptable side-effects related to their treatment."

Epilepsy is the most common serious neurological condition, affecting one in 200 people. A quarter of sufferers have more than one seizure a month and the risk of premature death is two to four times higher than normal.

The survey follows the Health Department's backing for Lamotrigine, a new drug that can be prescribed on its own rather than with a cocktail of the older drugs, causing fewer side-effects.

ADRIAN BROOKS

Corporal Karen Portsmouth-Baker says goodbye to Winston, a 19-year-old gelding. Below, the Royal Military Police Mounted Unit at Aldershot in 1912

Military horses ride into pages of history

ALDERSHOT bid an emotional farewell to some of its favourite residents yesterday as the Royal Military Police Mounted Troop paraded through the town for the last time.

Twelve members of the 160 Provost Company rode from the Beaumont Barracks accompanied by a mounted detachment of civil police. The Army's centuries-old tradition of riding horseback to battle will end formally on April 1 after a decision to put the 20 remaining operational horses out to grass. Horses with the section — all from Irish stock — are being made redundant because of cuts in the defence budget. The move will save £500,000 a year.

Most of the animals will be sent to the military animal centre at Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, but Winston, pictured left, is going to the Aldershot, Saddle Club, a riding school for Army families. Troops with the company will be transferred.

The Mounted Troop was raised in Aldershot in 1855 when cavalry regiments were called upon to provide "intelligent men of sober habits" to act as policemen. Since then the troop has carried out active and ceremonial duties throughout the world.

Cavalry charges on horseback took place in the First World War but, against entrenched lines of enemy troops armed with machine-guns and rifles, they were regarded as suicidal. The use of horses in such operations was soon abandoned in favour of armoured vehicles.

Horses were used for transport during the Second World War but since then they have been increasingly limited to ceremonial duties. Since the 1950s there have been no horse-mounted cavalry units in the Army.

Officers have been fighting to save the troop, which has been using the horses to patrol gunnery ranges and other areas with difficult terrain. But a spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence said that patrolling in difficult terrain could be done more effectively and more cheaply by motorcycle.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ex-marine awarded £500 for courage

A former Royal Marine commando was awarded £500 yesterday for disarming three post office raiders who were holding a blind pensioner hostage. Judge Boothman told David Trace, 43, who was knifed in the attack: "You showed incredible courage."

One of the gang, aged 18, was sentenced at Bristol Crown Court to six years at a young offenders' institution.

GP struck off

Benjamin Anazodo, 53, a GP of Kenton, northwest London, jailed for three years after prescribing large amounts of a painkiller to a drug addict who died, was struck off by the General Medical Council.

Conmen strike

Three men posing as police officers tricked their way into a young woman's house in Eastbourne after saying that her car had been stolen. They tied up the woman and her son, 11, before taking cash.

Booby prize

HTV had to scrap a holiday contest because it got the answer wrong. Viewers were asked whether the mouth of the Loire was at Calais, Caen or Bordeaux, whereas it flows into the Atlantic at St Nazaire.

Diver dies

Lester Smith, 19, from Aldridge, West Midlands, died after getting into difficulties yesterday while diving at the National Inland Diving Centre at Stoney Cove, Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Face of Keats

A life mask of John Keats bequeathed to the Wordsworth Trust and a fragment of the poet's manuscript *I Stood Tiptoe Upon a Little Hill* are to be exhibited at Grasmere, Cumbria, in the summer.

Heart beater

Britain's longest surviving heart transplant patient, Derrick Morris, 60, has decided to retire from his job as a docker at Swansea 15 years after he had the operation at Harefield Hospital, west London.

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Ministers just stand and watch as big opportunity passes by

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Government is missing a big political opportunity over the Nolan inquiry. Having set it up last October in response to a series of allegations about falling standards in public life, ministers have adopted a strangely detached stance. They have watched, with a mixture of fascination and apprehension, as the committee has taken on a life and momentum of its own. Ministers have given evidence — as Tony Newton did last week and David Hunt will this morning — but this has essentially been a defensive, almost self-justificatory, exercise.

It is sensible to be open-minded until the Nolan committee reports, especially on issues affecting MPs where Parliament will have the last word. But on other matters, notably the position of ministers and civil servants and appointments to quangos, the Government is giving up the chance to set the terms of the debate.

Yesterday's written evidence from the Government is detailed and thoughtful, but unconvincing. The overriding tone is that we live in the best of all possible worlds when good chaps can be trusted to behave decently. But it was the existence of widespread worries about some well-publicised cases that led to the creation of the Nolan inquiry. Mr Hunt was yesterday much more cautious than former ministers like George Younger or Norman Fowler have been about possible restrictions on what ex-ministers can do immediately after leaving office. The number of absuses may be small, but sensible safeguards would help to restore public confidence.

The more important question is appointments to quangos, where the Government's view is that nothing much is wrong which cannot be sorted by providing more information on who holds posts and by greater use of advertising paid positions. These are among the main proposals of the Review of Guidance on Public Appointments published yesterday by the Cabinet Office as the centrepiece of the Government's evidence.

These ideas are fine as far as they go, but they beg the main issue of the growth of Government patronage. The review adopts a narrow definition of public bodies, excluding most in the health service and governors of grant-maintained schools and further education colleges. Hence the full scale of appointments by ministers is still unclear. But even on the review's definition, in nearly two fifths of departments, ministers either make or are directly consulted about every appointment, while in a further quarter of departments there is direct ministerial involvement in in between a quarter and a half of posts. This is only partly a matter of partisan appointments: rather it is the vast extension of ministerial patronage.

It is not enough to provide a bit more transparency and otherwise rely on ministerial accountability to Parliament. The links between people running a local health authority and MPs are remote. Nor is it an answer, as the opposition parties propose, to turn over most of these appointments to local authority control. In many cases, that would just be exchanging one kind of patronage for another. Having schools or hospitals run exclusively by councillors or their appointees would mean losing many talented people with local roots and/or business experience who do not have party links.

Moreover, some of the agencies are essentially concerned with implementing changes in policy, such as in school curriculums, where it is reasonable to expect members to back the Secretary of State's line. It might be sensible to separate these policy bodies from those administering, say, schools or hospitals. With the latter, there is a strong case for a mix of the elected and the non-elected nominated or vetted by advisory bodies as already happens with JPs, General Commissioners of Income Tax, most health service appointments in Scotland and independent members of police authorities in England and Wales. Ministers are wary of creating additional quangos. But establishing such checks and balances would strengthen the Government's position against its critics.

PETER RIDDELL

'We want public-spirited and well-qualifed people'

Hunt invites the public to apply for quango jobs

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of the public will be encouraged to nominate themelves to serve on public bodies and quangos, the Government announced yesterday. David Hunt, the public service minister, unveiled a package of measures to create greater openness in the 43,000 public appointments made by government ministers but he rejected calls for such decisions to be independently scrutinised.

"At the end of the day, the buck stops with the minister and he or she is accountable," he said at a news conference in London to publish a government report on appointments to public bodies. The report, which has been submitted to the Nolan committee on standards in public life as part of the government's evidence, suggests greater use of advertising for public posts, especially for the 14,000 that carry a salary.

The public will be encouraged to make nominations to public bodies, in similar fashion to the system now operating for the honours list. Mr Hunt said: "Anyone who feels they have something to contribute should feel able to nominate themselves." Those applying to sit on quangos should not simply be drawn from "a list of the great and the good" but should be "public-spirited and well-qualified people".

Nomination forms will be made available to MPs for distribution to constituents. They will also be available through the Government's Public Appointments Unit.

Mr Hunt strongly denied accusations that party political bias was at work in quango appointments. "We have no way of knowing how many appointments are members of the Conservative Party. We do not record party political affiliation," he said.

However, the new proposals make considerable effort to counter Labour allegations that government patronage is being used for politcal ends. The traditional role of the Government Chief Whip in recommending party political stalwarts for public appointments is to be reduced.

The report, commissioned by the Cabinet Office last May before the Nolan committee was established, says: "Party politcal affiliation should not normally be relevant to appointment decions." Where political considerations have been taken into account, these should be made explicit.

In a further concession intended to meet accusations of bias, Mr Hunt says in written evidence to the Nolan committee that the Government would have "no hesitation" in accepting stricter guidelines on the appointment of ministers' close relatives. Three months ago a BBC report found that 24 spouses of Tory MPs and peers had been given jobs on quangos.

Labour immediately rejected the propsed reforms as inadequate. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, called for a "thorough review" of the political affiliations of all those now serving on quangos. Tory placemen who had no qualifications for the job "must be weeded out". Raising the prospect of an American-style system of voting for everyone down to the local rodent-catcher, Mr Straw added that "election not appointment" should be the rule for public service posts.

Lord Nolan was more welcoming. He described Mr Hunt's evidence as "a timely contribution" to his committee's consideration of quangos.

The Cabinet Office report also raises the possibility of a central database available on the Internet system, containing the details of all members of public bodies. The information recorded could include the names of those who nominated and appointed them.

Yesterday the Government published *Public Bodies 1994*, its annual review of nationalised industries and quangos. It shows there are 1,345 such public bodies, a small reduction on the previous year.

A total of 170 posts were paid more than £50,000 a year, although the report does not include the salaries of NHS Trust chairmen. Just over 30 per cent of 43,000 posts covered are held by women.

Leading article, page 19

Hunt: "Anyone who feels they have something to contribute should feel able to nominate themselves"

More than twenty senior posts pay over £70,000

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON

MORE than 20 government appointees to quangos and non-departmental public bodies earned over £70,000 last year. About 150 others earned between £50,000 and £70,000.

The figures are contained in the review of the 1,345 such bodies published yesterday by the Cabinet Office. The review does not include appointments to central government departments, the utility regulators such as OFER and OFGAS, the "Next Steps" bodies such as the Child Support Agency or the NHS Trusts.

In the nationalised industries (not included in our list) Nuclear Electric has six employees earning over £80,000. British Nuclear Fuels has five. The Post Office has five earning about or over £100,000.

About 14,000 of the 43,000 posts covered by the 84-page report attract payment.

The top earners:

- ☐ United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, Chief Executive: Peter Watson — £105,560
- ☐ Medical Research Council, Chief Executive: Sir Dai Rees — £101,240
- ☐ Horserace Totalisor Board, Chairman: Lord Wyatt of Weeford — £95,051
- ☐ Law Commission, Chairman: Mr Justice Brooke — £95,051
- ☐ Scottish Law Commission, Chairman: Lord Davidson — £95,051
- ☐ UK Atomic Energy Authority, three members: Brian Eyre, Kevin Murray, Roger Pierce — £84,448
- ☐ Chief Commons Commissioner: Martin Roth — £82,641
- ☐ Industrial Tribunals, President: (England & Wales), Judge Timothy Lawrence — £82,641; President (Scotland): Doris Littlejohn — £82,641
- ☐ Lands Tribunal, President: Judge Bernard Marder, QC — £82,641
- ☐ VAT Tribunal, President: Stephen Oliver, QC — £82,641
- ☐ N. Ireland Industrial Tribunal, President: J. Maguire — £82,641
- ☐ United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, Chairman: Sir Anthony Cleaver — £80,000
- ☐ Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Chief Executive: Professor Richard Brook — £75,000
- ☐ Immigration Appeal Tribunal, President: George Farmer — £73,479
- ☐ Remploy Ltd, Chief Executive: Tony Withey — £72,852
- ☐ Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, Chief Executive: Prof Tom Blundell — £71,157
- ☐ Economic and Social Research Council, Chief Executive: Prof Ronald Amann — £70,510
- ☐ ACAS, Chairman: John Hougham — £70,514
- ☐ Data Protection Registrar: Elizabeth France — £70,326.

Peer challenged on 'sleaze'

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

LORD LESTER, who has alleged corruption in the Lords, was told to "put up or shut up" yesterday by angry MPs and peers.

The Liberal Democrat claimed in a confidential memo leaked last week that he had been told by a client that four peers and several MPs had been paid "substantial amounts" for tabling questions to ministers. Last night colleagues said that he should name the accused or apologise for bringing the House into disrepute.

The Commons Select Committee on Privileges looking into MPs' cash for questions is likely to call Lord Lester to give evidence. Several committee members have made it clear that they are irritated by the unsubstantiated allegations.

In the Lords yesterday, the former Labour cabinet minister Lord Marsh said the allegations had bought accusations of sleaze to the Lords. "This information has apparently been obtained from a client whom the peer concerned is not able to name because he is paid by him. But that alleged informant does know of some other chaps who know of some other people who are also engaged in encouraging people to behave improperly." Lord Marsh asked the Leader of the Lords, Lord Cranborne, to give Lord Lester "an opportunity to cast light on these matters or, if not, to possibly apologise".

Lord Cranborne said he hoped that Lord Lester and his client would be able to substantiate the allegations: "Otherwise, I have to say that the reputation of this House risks being blackened in the public mind without substance."

Last night Lord Lester continued to refuse to name any of the parliamentarians, saying that he had not been told them by his source.

Labour condemns 'unjust' farms Bill

BY JAMES LANDALE

A GOVERNMENT plan to attract more people to farming by deregulating agricultural tenancy agreements came under attack from Labour yesterday.

Gavin Strang, the Shadow Agriculture Minister, said that allowing landowners and tenants to agree between themselves on the length of tenancies would end security of tenure and lead to the break up of farms. He said that the measure, proposed in the Agricultural Tenancies Bill, was unjust and would "do real damage to the social fabric of our countryside".

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, said the Bill, which received its second reading yesterday, had overwhelming support, including from the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association.

The present law, under which tenancies are virtually for life, made landowners reluctant to let their land. "The present restrictive legislation is gradually suffocating the tenanted sector," he said.

Mayhew reassures wary Orangemen

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of a prominent Orange Lodge in Northern Ireland said yesterday that they were happy with assurances from Sir Patrick Mayhew about the role to be proposed for Dublin in the Anglo-Irish framework document.

Their comments, which contrasted with warnings from Ulster Unionists about the document over the weekend, came as some loyalist politicians accused mainstream Unionists of increasing tension by making hysterical claims.

The Orangemen from Comber, Co Down, met Mr Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, at Stormont yesterday to discuss the cross-border bodies that will be proposed in the framework document on the future of the Province. David McNarry, who led the delegation, said: "We have had an assurance from the Secretary of State that the cross-border bodies would be driven by a Northern Ireland assembly elected by the people and for the people of Northern Ireland. We are quite happy about that."

However, Mr McNarry told Sir Patrick that the Lodge would call for his resignation if the final version of the document failed to match his assurances.

As the members of the Comber Orange Lodge met Mr Mayhew, representatives of loyalist paramilitaries held their fifth round of exploratory talks with government officials at Stormont. Gary McMichael, the leader of the Ulster Democratic Party, criticised mainstream unionists for their strong reaction to disclosures in *The Times* last week about content of the draft framework document. He said: "It is very foolish and is heightening fears in the community. There is a danger of too much speculation. We seem to have politicians who are playing games and trying to score points."

Mr McMichael, whose party has links to the outlawed Ulster Defence Association, said that Unionists should wait for the document to be published before making a judgment. "If we can work within the context of the document we will work within it," he said. "If we can't then we will not."

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: In the Commons, questions to transport ministers, the Attorney-General and the Overseas Development Administration were followed by second reading of the Agricultural Tenancies Bill.

The Lords debated the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill.

TODAY: In the Commons, questions to employment ministers and the Prime Minister will be followed by an Opposition debate on the "threat to schools from the 1995-96 financial settlement", opened by David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary. There will then be a debate on passenger services under rail privatisation.

The Lords will debate the Pensions Bill and the Central European Time Bill.

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Shootout in Gaza adds to pressure on Arafat

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

PALESTINIAN gunmen yesterday ambushed an Israeli tanker convoy inside the autonomous Gaza Strip, killing an Israeli security guard and wounding another after riddling their car with 40 bullets.

The daylight attack posed new difficulties for Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, who is under pressure from Israel for failing to take sufficient security measures against militant opponents of the peace process based in Gaza. The incident occurred as the overcrowded strip remained sealed from Israel in response to the January 22 double suicide bombing near the resort of Netanya, in which 21 Jews died.

Mr Arafat is due to meet Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, on the Gaza-Israel border on Thursday. He is expected to try to persuade the Israeli leader to end delays in implementing further extensions of the autonomy plan.

Arafat: condemned the gunmen's "dirty work"

Israel has made clear that the PLO will first have to demonstrate that it has Palestinian terrorists in its midst under effective control.

The PLO leader criticised those who carried out yesterday's attack and escaped into an area of Gaza under Palestinian control. "They want to squeeze the Palestinian people in the corner and to destroy the peace process", he said. "They are playing dirty work against the Palestinian people."

Mordechai Gur, Israel's Deputy Defence Minister, issued a warning within hours of the shooting that if the Palestinian police appointed by Mr Arafat did not take the necessary action to catch the killers, Israel would have to look at the incident "in a very severe way". He implied that Israel would have to consider sending troops back into areas of Gaza they left last May.

The ambush was carried out just before 9am as two Israeli petrol tankers, led by a Palestine police vehicle, were making a routine trip to petrol stations inside the Gaza Strip. Both Israeli guards, who were driving behind the lorries, were armed with pistols and sub-machineguns.

"I heard a round of shooting," David Ballah, the tanker driver, told Israel Radio. "I turned around and saw a shootout. The guy next to me got out of the vehicle and shot at the terrorists." A Palestinian police officer said that the four PLO policemen in the convoy fired in the air and then rushed towards the Israelis to administer first aid.

Minutes later, Israeli troops and Palestinian police reinforcements began a search of surrounding orange groves. Mr Arafat told Gaza City students only miles from the scene: "These criminal attempts will not pass without punishment, and our patience has its limits". Both Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, and the extreme left-wing Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility.

☐ **Cairo:** Eight Arab countries said in a joint statement yesterday that Middle East peace was incompatible with Israel's refusal of an international inspection of its nuclear arms programme. *(Reuter)*

Child victims cry out for Rwanda justice

Glenys Kinnock, MEP, calls for genocide trials so Rwandans can return without fear of reprisals

Glenys Kinnock in a refugee camp with Rwandan children, thousands of whom have experienced the trauma of genocide. Unicef estimates that 300,000 children have been killed by the war. The agency is trying to reunite another 80,000 with their families

A LITTLE girl with a baby strapped to her back stood on the edge of the circle of children, dancing and singing. She jogged in an attempt to pacify the crying child. She was eight years old, and that day she was in charge of a baby to whom she was not even related.

There were 400 unaccompanied children alone in one refugee camp I visited. They were found by Save the Children and are being cared for by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Unicef has said that 300,000 children have been killed in the war, and the agency is trying to reunite another 80,000 with their families.

There are thousands of Rwandan children who have experienced the trauma of genocide. The ones I saw live in a special compound in Kashesha, home to 50,000 refugees. Some have been forced to take part in unimaginable acts — even the murder of their parents.

One boy of ten fled into the bush when men wielding machetes hacked his younger brothers and sisters to death. He feels guilty because he survived. In the same camp I saw a baby, just a few weeks old, who had been left in a latrine after his birth. I saw other children in neighbouring Burundi, where they had their own murderous conflict between Tutsis and Hutus in 1993. Nearly 1,000 families were crammed into an abandoned pharmacy we visited. The children showed all the effects of desperate poverty and severe malnourishment. Their bodies were infested with parasites and they scratched incessantly.

In the medical tents in Burundi, the hard-pressed doctors grappled with patients who have malaria, tuberculosis and Aids.

It is now imperative that the refugees are made to feel confident about returning home. Inside the country there are probably more than one million displaced people, and considerably more are in Tanzania, Burundi, Zaire and Uganda.

In the camps, members and supporters of the previous Hutu-led Government still strut about peddling propaganda about the dangers of returning home, while the Rwandan Patriotic Front Government is in control. International inaction is allowing the Hutu army responsible for the genocide to regroup on the borders. We were told that 10,000 militiamen train with them around the camps; we saw men buying and selling guns openly on the outskirts.

The Rwandan Government needs more resources if it is to bring the murderers to justice and ensure security and land rights for refugees and displaced people. The special prosecutor in Kigali has only six magistrates, and no judges to investigate thousands of cases. They have no vehicles, no typewriters, no paper, not even cameras to register the prisoners' identities. There are no police records, indeed no police to speak of.

The more time passes, the harder it will be to collect reliable evidence and bring the Hutu zealots to justice. The 50 European human rights monitors promised last year have not been recruited, let alone deployed. The United Nations Security Council must ensure that funds are committed so that the trial and prosecution of those accused of crimes against humanity can begin. If the refugees are not given the confidence to return soon, dependency on food aid will grow, and the refugee camps will become permanent.

Police chief tackles Soweto revolt

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

AS SOUTH AFRICAN police reach a state of near revolution with black policemen rebelling against their mainly white officers, the new national police chief moved a team into Soweto yesterday to start restructuring the police force.

Accusing their officers of racism and of perpetuating apartheid-era attitudes, the rank and file have occupied stations, taken officers hostage and attempted to lynch another.

A focal point of the rebellion has been the police station in Orlando, Soweto. There, a strike by black police protesting against the reinstatement of white officers cleared of racism, was put down by a mainly white unit of armed riot police. Warrant Officer Jabulani Xaba, a striker, was killed. Calls for the disbandment of the units have now been added to the demands.

After the Orlando killing, a mob screamed for the dismissal of Brigadier Chris Ellis, the overall commander in Soweto. Later, Major Bertus Peterson, had to flee policemen who tried to lynch him after accusing him of leading the attack on the Orlando strikers. At Langa outside Cape Town, strikers held hostage their station commander, Captain Willem Hattingh. Both Brigadier Ellis and Captain Hattingh have both been transferred to other jobs.

General George Fivaz, the first commissioner not to have links with the security police, sent a management team into Soweto to start "visible and in some cases dramatic changes" in the force's structure. He said the process would be "a pilot project" for transforming the police into a police service.

☐ **Durban:** Gunmen killed three people, including a 12-month baby girl, in Inanda, outside this port city, police said yesterday. *(Reuter)*

Deng protégé fails as Mao heads poll

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE man designated by Deng Xiaoping as China's "core leader", President Jiang Zemin, almost failed to score in a recent poll of urban residents asked to name their favourite politician.

Chairman Mao came first with a 40 per cent vote in the poll by the official *China Youth Daily*. Chou En-lai, the late Prime Minister, won 27 per cent support, while Mr Deng scored 10 per cent. Even foreign leaders fared better than Mr Jiang who, according to one observer, "barely registered": Nelson Mandela was chosen by 5 per cent of respondents, and Bill Clinton won 2 per cent support.

Mr Jiang is regarded as little more than Mr Deng's protégé, appointed party general secretary after the Tiananmen Square killings.

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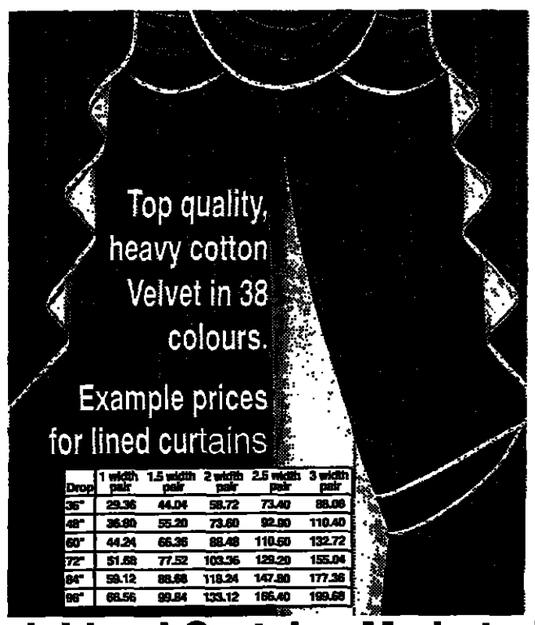

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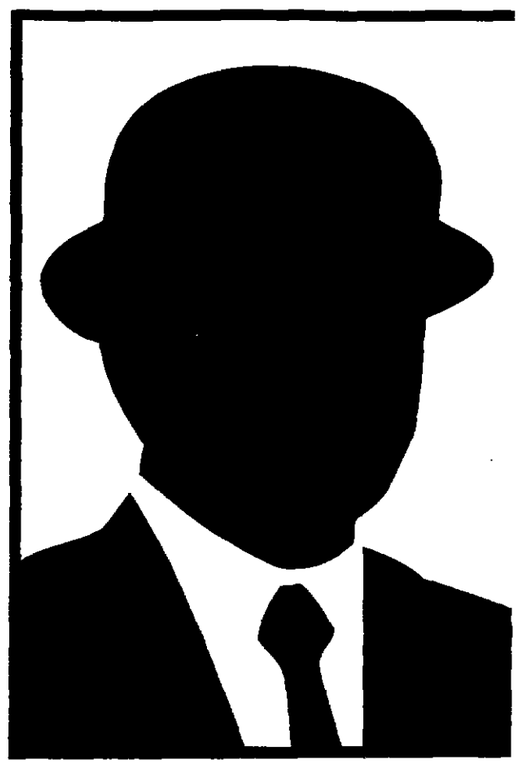

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Mother's trek to find son in Chechenia pays off

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN GROZNY

THE wounded Russian soldier was little more than a boy. His outsize army boots, lying beneath the Chechen hospital bed, appeared incongruous beside his slight form and childlike features. He said he was 20, but looked younger.

Thrown into a war he did not believe in, Sergei Martinets was a sharp contrast to the swarthy, hard-faced Chechen fighters that had captured him. His youth seemed further accentuated now that his mother had found him.

A single-minded, sharp-eyed woman, she is one of up to 50 Russian mothers who have travelled to Chechenia to find their missing sons. Denied information about their fate by Russian authorities, they have arrived of their own accord. Unlike the others, she has been successful in her quest. She is a small and determined figure, dressed in a chic grey overcoat and fine fur hat, and she looks as out of place in this barren environment as her son.

His story is a familiar indictment of the Russian Army's incompetence in the Chechen campaign. A conscript, with only four months' service left to do, he was the driver of an armoured personnel carrier that in turn was part of an armoured column committed to the disastrous New Year's Eve offensive on the Presidential Palace.

"I was just told that my armoured carrier would be part of the column. We had no idea where we were going until we got into Grozny," he said, cradling his bandaged right arm as his mother rearranged the blankets around him.

"Once we were in the city, the Chechens opened fire at us from everywhere. They were shooting at us from the fifth and sixth floors of buildings.

"The infantry got out, and were beside the vehicle. I was hit by shrapnel and ran into a house with six other soliders. There was shooting everywhere. We were terrified. At dawn the Chechens shouted at us to give up and said nothing would happen to us — so we surrendered. Four of us had been wounded."

Sergei was held for three weeks in Grozny, then taken to the hospital in Stari Atagi, south of the capital. His mother had no idea of her missing son's fate until a list of prisoners was published in a Russian newspaper. Sergei's name was among them, and she immediately left her home town of Samara to find him, arriving in Chechenia two days later.

She began to question Chechen commanders about her son's whereabouts, and travelled to Grozny, a place she describes as "bombing, bombing, bombing", spending a night of shelling in a cellar full of Chechen troops, who she says treated her "respectfully".

A Sukhoi bomber flies overhead as she speaks, and suddenly all the faces in the dingy hospital room turn anxiously skyward. "Why are they doing this, for what?" she asks quietly. "In the past we all thought of Chechenia as part of Russia. But if they want to live apart that much, then why do this to them?"

Leaving Grozny, a chance meeting with a Chechen officer revealed that Sergei was in Stari Atagi. They met, chaperoned by Chechen minders.

For there is no end in sight to Sergei's captivity. The Chechens have said they will exchange no more prisoners. "If the Russians stop the shelling, end the war and release our prisoners of war, then he can go," says one of the Chechens.

Moscow: Russian forces said yesterday that they had captured a key separatist stronghold in Grozny and had effectively "broken the back" of rebel resistance in the Chechen capital (Richard Beeston writes).

Regional military headquarters in Mozdok said in a statement, which could not be verified independently, that ground forces had taken Minutka Square, a vital intersection linking several Chechen-held areas.

"This ends the organised resistance of fighters on the territory of the entire city," said a report on Tass, quoting military sources. Russian claims have often been exaggerated. Nevertheless, Chechens and Russians agree that it is only a matter of time before the capital falls.

Economic ills threaten IMF loan to Russia

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

BATTERED by the costly war in Chechenia, rising inflation and a falling rouble, the Russian economy received another blow yesterday when a multibillion pound International Monetary Fund loan appeared to be in jeopardy.

Key negotiations between Russia and an IMF team seemed doomed to end inconclusively this week, after the Russian side failed to persuade the IMF that it can bring its faltering economy under control this year.

At stake is a $6.8-billion (£4-billion) standby loan, which is supposed to underpin Russia's budget this year, but which critics claim will simply end up financing President Yeltsin's eight-week military campaign in Chechenia.

The IMF was supposed to have finalised the standby loan at the end of last year when the Russian Government appeared to have put together a tight fiscal budget aimed at bringing inflation down to single figures by the middle of this year. Since then all projections have been thrown off balance by the impact of the war, which has hurt the economy and left many wondering if President Yeltsin is really committed to reform.

Inflation last month was 17.8 per cent, the highest rate for a year, while the rouble is continuing to fall daily to record lows against the dollar.

m The cost of the military campaign, the humanitarian operation and the massive reconstruction programme needed for Grozny, the devastated Chechen capital, is expected to run into billions. In spite of the gloomy forecasts, President Yeltsin and the last remaining reformers in his Government have gone out of their way to assure Western investors that Moscow is still committed to a tough economic reform programme.

"There is no reason to panic and you certainly cannot say that things are headed for failure," said one Russian official, who predicted that a deal with the IMF was still possible later this year. However, the doubts have persisted and were raised at the weekend during a meeting of economic policymakers of the Group of Seven industrial nations meeting in Toronto.

Theo Waigal, Germany's Finance Minister, spoke for many Western sceptics when he said: "The financial impact of the war in Chechenia threatens to burst the Russian budget: because of that, the outlook for stabilisation of Russia's economy will be further endangered."

Even before the IMF decision, Vladimir Panskov, the Russian Finance Minister, said that this year Russia would receive less than the $13 billion in international credits already included in budget receipts (out of total planned receipts of $42 billion).

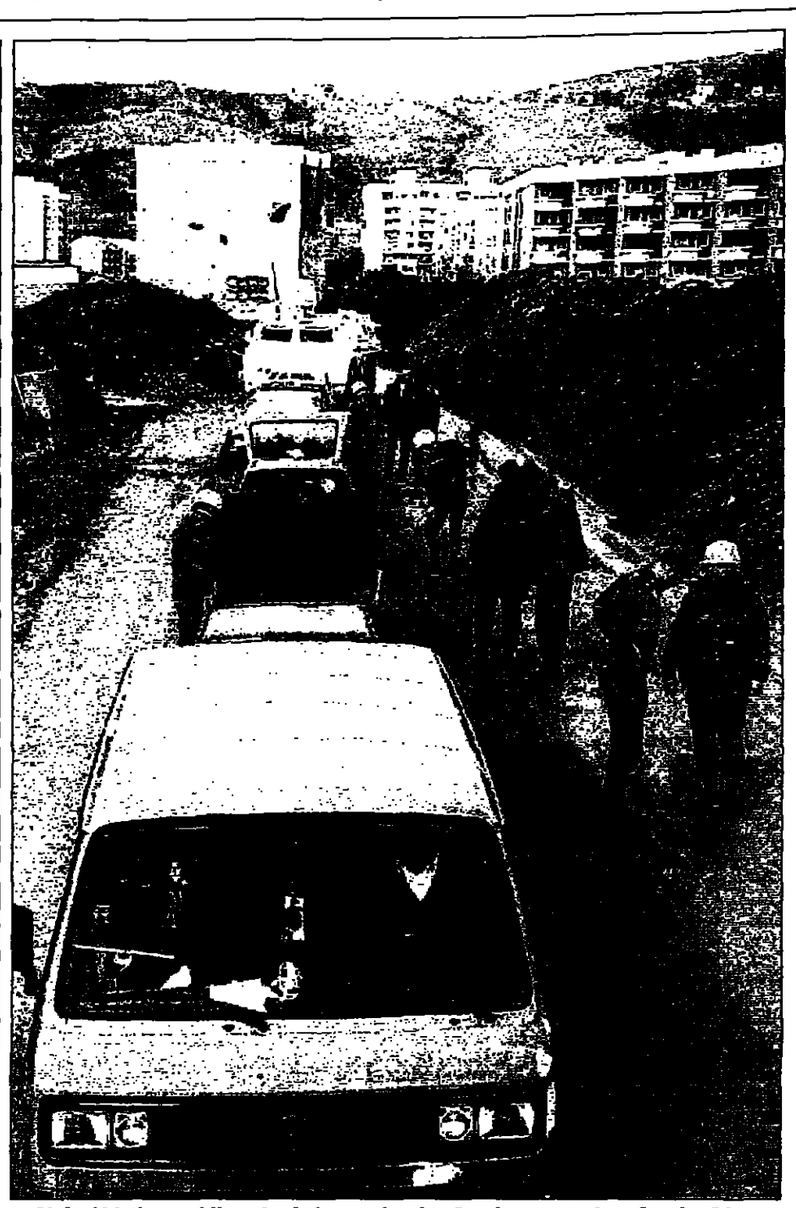
The minister said in a television interview: "We will not receive the standby credit of $6 billion from the IMF, and we might not obtain a credit of $600 million for rehabilitation. We shall try to find extra sources of finance from Russian investors with the help of state treasury and bond issues.

"But as minister, I will remain inflexible about the tough basis of the budget and of the deficit," he said.

Even with the planned $13-billion worth of international aid, the austerity-oriented 1995 budget objectives — calling for a deficit of 7.8 per cent of GDP, which would not be covered by cheap central bank credits, but rather by issues of state securities — already seemed hard to reach. One economist said: "Without foreign credits, they [the objectives] become impossible to meet."

Experts think it unlikely that the IMF's refusal is final, and Mr Panskov's defeatist remarks may be aimed at "scaring some hesitant members of parliament". Parliament is soon to discuss the budget on third reading, article by article.

Geneva: Yelena Bonner, the Russian human rights activist and widow of Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel peace laureate and Soviet-era dissident, yesterday urged the West to halt aid to the Russian Government until it stopped the Chechenia war. Ms Bonner, who once backed President Yeltsin as the main hope for democracy, said he had crossed a line of no return and was now on an "anti-democratic path". *(Reuter)*



United Nations soldiers check the cars leaving Sarajevo yesterday after the "blue routes" across the airport were opened to civilian traffic for the first time since July

Truce bolstered as Serbs let cars leave Sarajevo

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

A LINE of civilian cars drove out of Sarajevo, the besieged Bosnian capital, yesterday for the first time in seven months. The United Nations called it an encouraging sign of co-operation between the Government and separatist Serbs amid a string of setbacks to a month-old truce.

Foremost among the agreement's troubles is the continuing localised but heavy fighting around the north-western Bihac enclave. UN peacekeepers counted more than 400 artillery, mortar and tank shells yesterday morning around the contested town of Velika Kladusa. Most of the shells are believed to have been fired by rebel Serbs in neighbouring Croatia. Peacekeepers and officials from the Sarajevo Government called the departure of five dozen war-battered cars an important step forward. They said that they expected progress this week on opening the route to vital non-UN humanitarian aid convoys.

A Bosnian government official called yesterday's opening a "sign of goodwill" from the Serbs. "What we really want is to open [the route] for humanitarian goods so that people can bring into the city what they want."

The agreement, part of the December 31 cessation of hostilities document, reopens two routes across the UN-held Sarajevo airport in the west of the city. One allows passage along an east-west axis, between Sarajevo and a government-held suburb beyond the Serbian lines. It is the only land access to the city that does not go through a rebel checkpoint. The other lets traffic travel along a north-south route between two Serb-held suburbs, cutting the journey time between the two areas from ten hours to a fraction of one.

The so-called "blue routes" were opened in April last year after Nato's ultimatum to Serbs besieging Sarajevo. In July, the Serbs ordered French peacekeepers to bar further civilian or humanitarian traffic along the road. Its closure was an enormous blow to morale in Sarajevo.

EU backs French plan for Balkans summit

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE AND GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE European Union yesterday backed a French proposal for a summit on the former Yugoslavia, bringing together the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia.

The move was announced as the Muslim-led Bosnian Government agreed to consider a Russian proposal to hold talks with the rump Yugoslavia on mutual recognition.

Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, said on his return from Moscow: "We should think about this possibility of mutual recognition of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Belgrade and vice versa. That is a key in our relations and that suggestion will be seriously considered in Sarajevo."

Mr Silajdzic's declaration will hearten France, which called the summit despite reservations in Germany and the United States that the latest "last ditch" effort to bring peace will achieve anything, and even though President Izetbegovic of Bosnia may send a representative.

The summit, proposed a week ago by Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, is likely to take place in Paris this month. It reflects alarm that the former Yugoslavia is sliding towards anarchy in the run-up to a possible spring offensive in Bosnia and the departure of the United Nations from Croatia.

A final date is likely to be arranged after officials of the Contact Group of negotiators from Britain, France, Germany, America and Russia, meet on Monday.

If Presidents Milosevic of Serbia, Tudjman of Croatia, or Izetbegovic are prepared to attend, there is no indication whether they would be prepared to make concessions.

France, which holds the rotating EU presidency, last week suggested the peace conference as a way of breaking the diplomatic impasse, but the idea has been greeted with scant enthusiasm. European governments are also desperately anxious to score a breakthrough as pressure mounts in the US Congress for America to break with its partners and lift the arms embargo against the Muslim-led Bosnian Government.

Juppé: suggested the negotiations last week

"Bosnia will not boycott the summit, but President Izetbegovic may send a representative," a spokesman for the Bosnian Government said yesterday.

Rump Yugoslavia, which consists of Serbia and Montenegro, opposed Bosnia's declaration of independence in 1992.

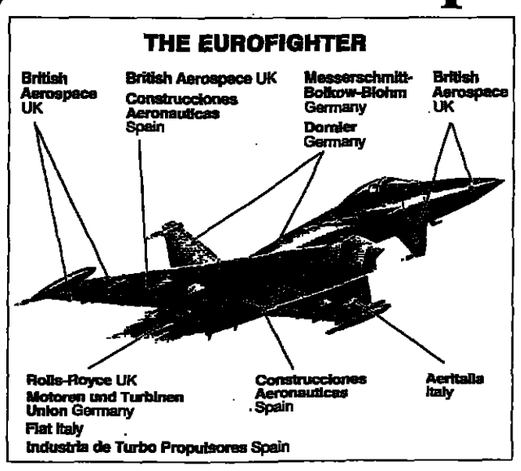
Eurofighter flies into pricing turbulence

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE four nations involved in the development of the controversial Eurofighter project seem to be heading for a dispute over workshare and pricing.

That much became clear yesterday after a session in Munich of senior officials from the four states — Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain — dedicated to the subject of "harmonising parliamentary approval" for the fighter. The decision to move from development to production of the European Fighter Aircraft must be made this year if current delivery schedules are to be met. Britain and Italy want to have their Eurofighters operational by 2002.

But a number of hurdles have to be crossed before the Eurofighter can go on stream. First, flight tests scheduled for spring have to satisfy each of the partner nations. Second, the work on production — which will guarantee thousands of jobs in all four countries — has to be agreed. The current forecast is that the Royal Air Force will buy 250 of the sophisticated new planes, while the Germans will take 140. That should translate into a 43-per cent share of the work for the British, and 24 per cent for the Germans, with the rest shared out by the Italians and the Spanish. Daimler-Aerospace (Dasa), the chief German contractor, is pressing however for a 36-per-cent slice of the workload.



That spells trouble for the project. Since parliamentary approval may hinge on a satisfactory deal over workshare, the Eurofighter will soon be flying into a patch of turbulence. The most complicated approval process will probably be in Italy, where several months of committee work and a full-blown parliamentary debate may be needed before the go-ahead is given for production. That, too, suggests the need for serious horse-trading among the partners.

Dasa, according to German parliamentary sources, has raised its demands for additional development funds from DM570 million (£236 million) to DM870 million. The Defence Ministry cautions that such escalating costs will turn the political climate against the fighter.

There is as yet no political blockage in the German parliament — this is likely to come only when the Defence Minister is able to give concrete production costs and future prices — but opponents of the fighter were gathering strength.

Opposition Social Democrats, in particular, have seized on a report by the Federal Audit Office which accuses the Defence Ministry of having no real grasp of the costs, and which compares the new fighter unfavourably with the MiG-29. Eurofighter defenders say the MiG-29, though cheap and available, is not in the same league. "It is 1980s technology," said one aerospace executive.

The four national representatives yesterday were in no doubt about the technical and combat strengths of the Eurofighter: only the far more expensive US F-22 could conceivably outperform the European plane.

The main problem was how to ensure that political arguments over costs in the coming months do not overwhelm the project later in the year. This was given a high priority by Roger Freeman, Defence Procurement Minister who is an apostle of multinational — especially trilateral Anglo-French-German — co-operation on weapon technology.

His advisers made clear yesterday that a merging of European arms projects is the only sensible way forward on many future weapons.

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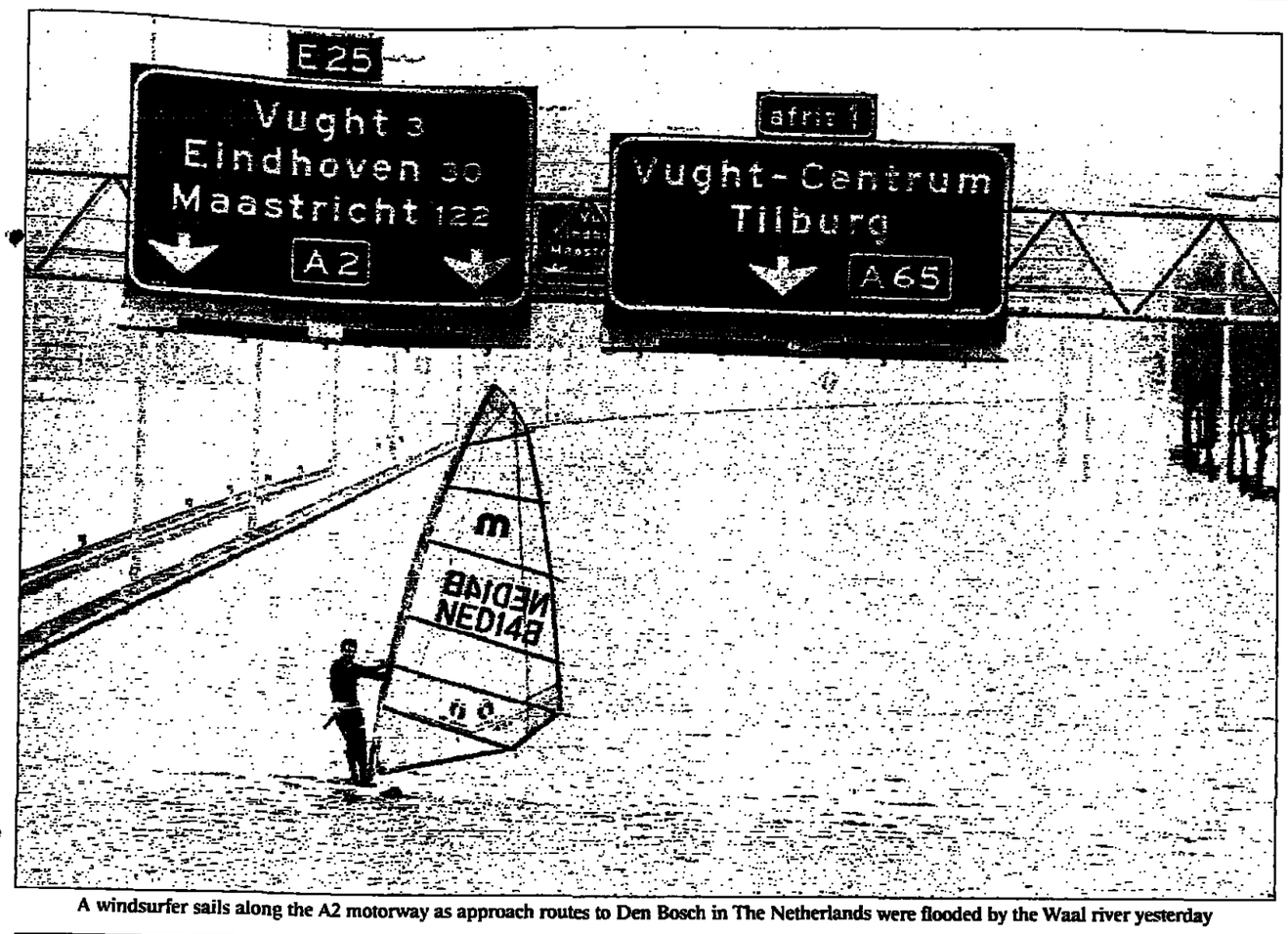

A windsurfer sails along the A2 motorway as approach routes to Den Bosch in The Netherlands were flooded by the Waal river yesterday

Dutch refugees head for home

Amsterdam: The last Dutch flood evacuees headed home yesterday after a mass return over the weekend when the authorities declared most of the dykes around the downstream Maas and Waal rivers to be safe. "The situation is more or less back to normal," the Interior Ministry said. "The remaining people are being allowed home and the rest of the livestock are going back from Tuesday."

Swollen rivers forced about 250,000 people to leave their homes last week in The Netherlands' worst natural disaster in 40 years. But swiftly receding water levels allowed the last 14,000 people, from the villages of Gorinchem Oost and Boven Hardinxveld in the west of the evacuated region, to return home yesterday.

On Sunday 180,000 people in and around the towns of Tiel and Culemborg were greeted by signs improvised by the police saying "Welcome home". Officials said most of the main rivers and canals had reopened to shipping by last night, although repairs were continuing along much of the Maas.

Clinton blasted by Republicans over budget 'cowardice'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL EVANS

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday sent Congress a $1,600 billion (£1,026 billion) budget proposal for 1996 that offered Capitol Hill's new Republican majority minimal help with its pledge to balance the Government's books over the next seven years.

Though Mr Clinton took office promising to halve the federal deficit and made deficit reduction a top priority during his first two years, his budget plan essentially proclaims that if the Republicans are serious about balancing the budget by 2002 then they, themselves, must make the deep and very painful cuts required.

Republicans accused Mr Clinton of political cowardice. He had shown "no interest in the heavy lifting needed to eliminate all budget deficits ... this budget clearly lacks courage," said John Kasich, the House budget committee Chairman. He had "raised the white flag of surrender at the red ink of government spending", said Pete Domenici, Chairman of the Senate budget committee. Mr Clinton retorted that his budget would produce a "leaner, not meaner, government", and Administration officials challenged the Republicans to spell out exactly what programmes they would cut, saying it was time for them to "put up or shut up".

Privately White House officials complain that Mr Clinton received no credit for his strenuous past deficit reductions efforts. Nor do they believe the Republicans can balance the budget without wrecking the economy or triggering a popular revolt by savaging cherished programmes. "If the Republicans want to do more deficit reduction let them come forward with their own ideas," said one. "Why make it easy for them?"

Mr Clinton's proposed budget appeared to be based largely on political rather than economic considerations. Under the President's plan the deficit would rise from $192.5 billion this year to $196.7 billion next, and remain close to $200 billion for the rest of the decade. It makes practically no effort to cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and other enormous "entitlement" programmes whose rapid growth is the principal cause of America's annual deficits. It proposes a relatively modest $144 billion in savings over the next five years, primarily through streamlining and trimming government departments.

However, yesterday concern was raised about the consequences of defence cuts planned. Harlan Ullman, a senior associate of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, has warned in a study of America's future military power that heavy cuts in the United States defence budget are seriously eroding America's fighting strength and could lead to a "hollow force" by the end of the century.

Congressmen were warned in a new analysis of planned post-Cold War military spending that that the long-term consequences could reduce US total active armed forces from more than 1.6 million today to about one million.

Brown: hoped row could be resolved

Talks offer by China to avert US trade war

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

CHINA has moved to avert a looming trade war with America by offering to resume negotiations next week on ending rampant Chinese piracy of American music, films and computer software.

Wu Yi, the Chinese Trade Minister, made the offer in a letter received by Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, on Sunday night. It came a day after Mr Kantor had announced plans to impose the largest sanctions in US history on Chinese goods from February 26.

Mr Kantor, revealing the Chinese offer yesterday, called it a "step in the right direction", and added: "I don't know how China could have responded more quickly." He said that he would send negotiators back to China next Monday, giving Peking 13 days to settle US demands. The Trade Representative said that America would resume talks "with an open mind", but expected the Chinese to agree to immediate measures to crack down on the piracy of American intellectual property, including raids on the main Chinese compact disc producers and proper enforcement of its copyright protection laws.

He emphasised that the punitive 100 per cent tariffs he announced on Saturday would still be imposed if China refused to co-operate. "Piracy of US products is an extremely serious problem," he said. If America does go ahead with the punitive sanctions, China has said it will retaliate in kind.

Ron Brown, the US Commerce Secretary, had earlier played down talk of a trade war, saying that he hoped there would be a "re-engagement so that this problem could be overcome".

Independent China experts noted that two earlier Sino-American trade disputes had been settled in the grace period between the announcement of sanctions and their actual implementation, and thought Peking would also relent this time.

The Administration carefully targeted its sanctions to minimise the impact on American businesses and consumers, and won widespread support for its action.

However, both America and China seemed anxious to contain the conflict, singling out relatively minor categories of goods for sanctions. The Americans would spare Chinese textiles, the Chinese US grain and aircraft.

Space crews wave as Shuttle and Mir rendezvous

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE crew of the shuttle Discovery edged towards the Mir space station yesterday after an eleventh hour decision allowed the two vessels to rendezvous at 17,500 mph about 245 miles above the Earth.

The shuttle's commander, James Wetherbee, took manual control of Discovery as she passed half a mile below Mir, firing jets to bring the vessel to within feet of the space station.

Commander Wetherbee exchanged waves with the crew of Mir. "This is the most beautiful thing I've ever seen in space," he said.

A leaky jet thruster had jeopardised the mission after Russian officials declared frozen fuel might damage parts of the Mir station and had said initially that the Discovery must remain at a distance of 400 yards.

Finally, less than three hours before the delicate manoeuvre was to begin, the Russian headquarters in Kaliningrad granted its approval for the two spacecraft to close to within 38ft in practice for a first docking between US and Russian vessels this June.

The decision came after three days of continual negotiations between American and Russian engineers. Nasa agreed yesterday to take responsibility, and told its astronauts to stop the leak by closing a manifold that supplies fuel to the broken jet.

Discovery's crew of six, including Dr Michael Foale, an astrophysics graduate of Cambridge University who will be the first Briton to walk in space on Thursday, and US Air Force Lieutenant-Colonel Eileen Collins, the first woman at the controls, had tried desperately yesterday morning to staunch the trail of icy fuel.

The Russian agency feared small blocks of the frozen fuel might damage optical sensors on a Soyuz capsule attached to the orbiting station, a vessel needed by the three Mir cosmonauts for their return to Earth next month.

The rendezvous, the most important element of the eight-day mission, includes a flight round the station and a conversation between Vladimir Titov, the second Russian aboard a US shuttle, and his three countrymen on board the space station.

Alexander Viktorenko and Elena Kondakova have been in orbit for 125 days, while crewman Valery Polyakov was marking his 394th day in space.

The shuttle Discovery: a leaky jet thruster had earlier jeopardised its rendezvous with Mir

Altar boy abused by 4 priests

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FOUR Catholic priests in Washington have been permanently removed from their posts after each admitted sexually abusing the same altar boy in the 1970s.

Cardinal James Hickey of Washington broke the news in *a letter read from the pulpits* of the four priests' churches during Mass on Sunday. The congregations were stunned, though their priests had disappeared without explanation ten days earlier.

The archdiocese took a conscious decision to disclose the priests' conduct, even alerting *The Washington Post* in advance. Recently the Catholic Church has been stung by allegations that it has sought to conceal cases of sexual abuse by its clergy.

In this instance the altar boy, now a 34-year-old professional living in Baltimore, contacted a group called Survivors of Clergy Abuse Link-up after he began having marital problems.

All four priests, Thomas Schaeffer, Alphonsus Smith, Edward Pritchard and Edward Hartell, have been sent for treatment at undisclosed locations.

Ecuador calls for Brazil to mediate

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

THE focus for a diplomatic solution to the border conflict between Ecuador and Peru shifted yesterday to Brazil as President Durán Ballén flew to Brasilia to ask Latin *America's most powerful* country to intervene.

Señor Durán met his Brazilian counterpart, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who emphasised the need for a negotiated settlement in the dispute over an undemarcated stretch of land in the inaccessible Cordillera del Condor.

Senhor Cardoso is well placed to press for a compromise between his feuding neighbours. Brazil, along with Argentina, Chile and the United States, is a guarantor of the Rio Protocol, which brought *an end to the Peru-Ecuador* war of 1941.

As Foreign Minister of Brazil for six months in the preceding Government of President Franco, Senhor Cardoso showed skill in his handling of regional disputes, earning the praise of Foreign Offices across the Continent.

His vocal commitment to a prosperous Latin America, with Continent-wide free trade as its pillar, has led him to assume a special interest in the present border clash. In *addition to its potential* function as an engine for economic growth in the region, Brazil under Senhor Cardoso is expected to undertake a more active diplomatic role in the region.

A Brazilian resolution of the crisis between Ecuador and Peru would be seen in official circles in Brasilia as strengthening the country's case for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council.

Unruffled by the summit in Brasilia, President Fujimori of Peru *announced* yesterday that he would "remove all the invaders" from the isolated jungle region on his country's border with Ecuador.

Hours later, Señor Durán left Brasilia for Buenos Aires for an emergency meeting with President Menem of Argentina.

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Pressure grows on Britain to resolve discord on Europe

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

MINISTERS who are bogged down in the Conservative Party's trench warfare over Europe were warned yesterday that Britain has only a few months to put together an agreed negotiating strategy for the opening phase of the European Union's conference which will be rewriting the Maastricht treaty.

British diplomats have been told by the French Government that the EU summit in Cannes at the end of June may start to shape the agenda for talks which are not due to open officially until next year. A committee of experts, junior ministers and MEPs opens discussions on the agenda for the 1996 conference at Messina, Sicily, in early June. A special summit of EU leaders is being planned in Majorca for September 22-23.

This calendar puts pressure on the British Cabinet to resolve its differences over Europe before the real bargaining starts. "John Major had better get his ideas together pretty fast, because he's going to have to say something clear pretty soon," one EU official said.

As the preparatory work for next year's conference on the Maastricht treaty gets under way, Britain's partners are trying to work out how long Mr Major can remain Prime Minister and what kind of European policy will emerge from the Tory party's convulsions.

Hans van Mierlo, the Dutch Foreign Minister, met Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, in London the other day and, according to Dutch sources, was appalled by the conversation. Mr van Mierlo wanted to discuss how EU external policy should be redesigned when the Union's governments meet to assess the Maastricht treaty.

"Hurd just said 'no' to everything. They didn't really have a conversation at all," said one Dutch official. In the Dutch town of Leiden last September, Mr Major delivered a carefully wrought speech on the future shape of the EU which dwelt on his reservations about European integration but ruled nothing out. Then in an interview last month with Sir David Frost, the Prime Minister unilaterally redefined the Government's position as opposed to any significant changes in the distribution of power in the EU system.

That lurch towards a harder line on Europe triggered open warfare in the Cabinet and a fresh burst of analysis in Brussels, Paris, Bonn and elsewhere over Mr Major's chances of survival. But the reassessments are cautious: EU governments were told once before that Mr Major was on the skids, only to find that they had been deceived.

A few leading personalities in the EU only agreed to Britain's opt-out from Maastricht's social chapter in December 1991 because they comforted themselves that a British election was only months away and that a Labour Government would abandon the exemption within days of winning power. The narrow margin of the Conservative victory in 1992 led directly to the slow parliamentary struggle to ratify Maastricht and to Labour's attempts to bring down the Government and the treaty.

Hurd: shocked Dutch with repeated "no"

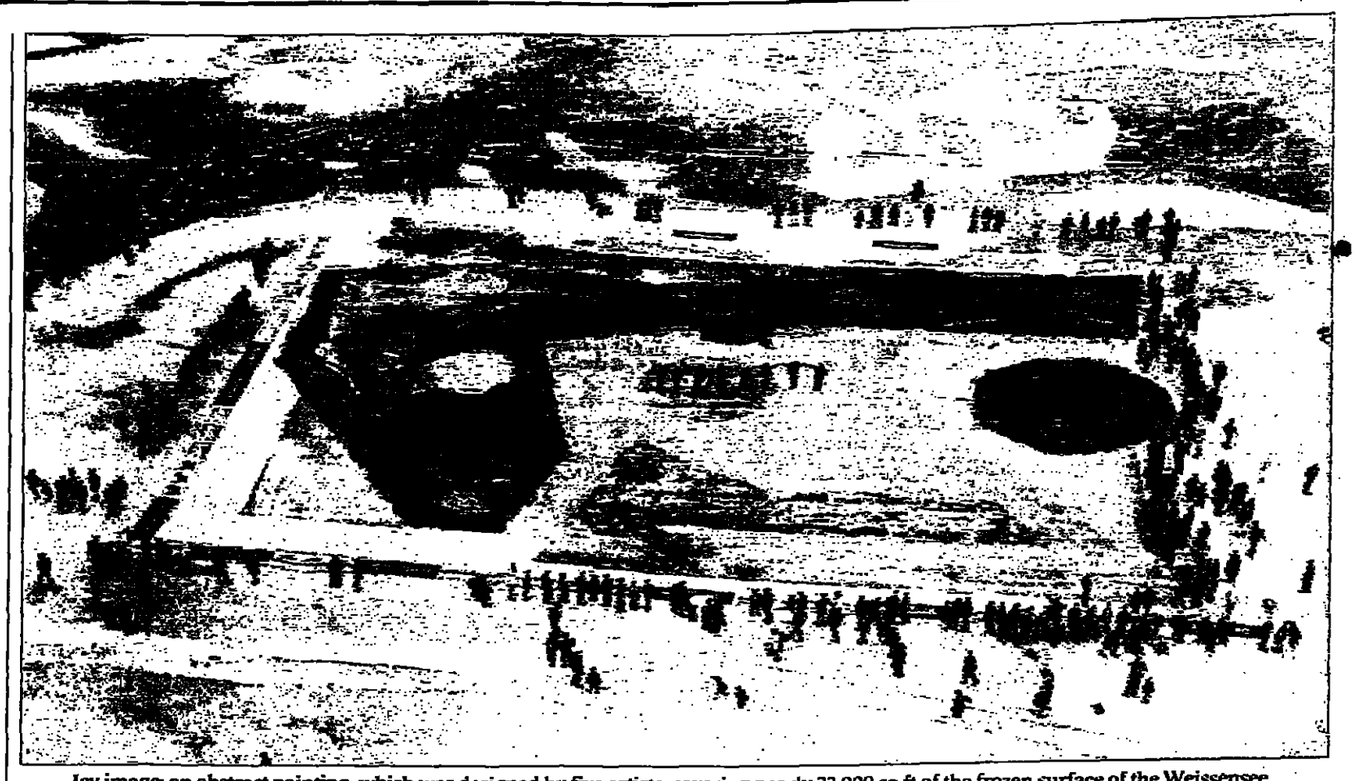
Both spectacles horrified politicians and the people in continental states, such as the Benelux countries, where European integration is believed to be too important to be controversial and referendums are regarded as the last refuge of demagogues.

Advocates of a decisive move towards deeper European union next year are divided over whether the arrival of a Labour Government led by Tony Blair would make much difference. Conventional wisdom holds that the 1996 conference should be stretched into 1997 and that the 14 other governments should wait until after a British election, which must be held by May 1997, to finalise their agreements on the powers of the European Parliament, majority voting or the co-ordination of defence policies.

Other voices can already be heard arguing that Mr Blair's European policies are so vague that in practice they too will be filled out by the prevailing winds of Eurosceptical public feeling. Apart from the clear difference over the social chapter, Jacques Delors remarked acidly last year, there really is not much to choose between the EU policies of either main British party.

Neither Germany nor France has made up its mind on exactly what to bid for in 1996. Both administrations must wait for the final result of the French presidential election in May but both decisions will also be influenced by what is hammered out in London — and by whether British ministers can stick to the same policy for more than a few days at a time.

Letters, page 19



Icy image: an abstract painting, which was designed by five artists, covering nearly 22,000 sq ft of the frozen surface of the Weissensee, a lake in the southern Austrian province of Carinthia, west of Villach. Food colourings were used to create the work

Clash over 'Alexander's tomb'

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

EXPERTS are to meet in Cairo on Thursday in an attempt to shed light on a Greek archaeologist's claims to have discovered the long-lost tomb of Alexander the Great.

Abdel Halim Nureddin, the chief of the Egyptian Antiquities Authority, said excavations at the site would go ahead even though Greek experts sent to examine the tomb raised serious doubts about its authenticity. Thanos Mikroutsikos, the Greek Culture Minister, said Greece had seen no proof that ancient ruins in Egypt's Western Desert are part of the tomb.

The experts said that, according to the evidence shown to them by Egyptian authorities and an inspection of the Siwa site, it seemed the monument belonged to much later Roman times. Liana Souvaltzi, an archaeologist, said she had found inscriptions referring to Alexander and his successor on three standing stones at the site of a Doranic temple at al-Maraki near the Western Desert oasis town of Siwa.

Mr Nureddin said Ms Souvaltzi insisted she had read the inscriptions correctly. Mr Nureddin said that excavations with a Greek-Egyptian mission would continue after Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month, which finishes at the end of February.

Mitterrand isolated on Algiers talks plan

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN PARIS

FRENCH disarray over the crisis in Algeria worsened yesterday when the Foreign Ministry refused to endorse President Mitterrand's suggestion of a European-backed peace conference.

M Mitterrand, whose term of office ends in May, has received no support from Edouard Balladur's conservative Cabinet since he put forward his proposal last Friday. The Socialist President's remarks provoked a furious reaction from Algeria's military-backed Government, which summoned the French Ambassador to complain about interference in domestic affairs. The Algiers regime has been locked in a three-year war against Muslim insurgents who want to create an Islamic state.

On Sunday, Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister, indicated that the President's suggestion had not been discussed with the Cabinet. "I'm not certain we would associate ourselves with this initiative," M Pasqua said.

The Foreign Ministry hinted yesterday that it had also not been informed or consulted. Alain Juppé, the Foreign Minister, said no initiative was imminent.

M Mitterrand suggested that the European Union, of which France holds the rotating six-month presidency, should organise a peace conference based in part on proposals drafted by Algeria's outlawed fundamentalist movement and legal opposition parties during talks last month in Rome. The Algerian Government rejected those proposals.

An estimated 30,000 people have been killed in the Algerian conflict, which was triggered when national parliamentary elections were cancelled in order to thwart a fundamentalist victory.

EU takes steps towards accession of Cyprus

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND GEORGE BROCK

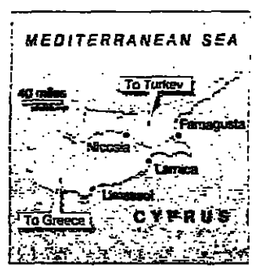
THE European Union has agreed in principle to a French proposal to open accession talks with Cyprus within six months of next year's intergovernmental conference, provided Greece immediately drops its veto on a Turkish customs union with the EU.

Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said after a meeting with his counterparts in Brussels that "the ice is broken and there is a good chance we can agree a customs union with Turkey on March 6". He said Greece had lifted its blockade on the proposed customs union and the financial protocol on the understanding that talks between Nicosia and Brussels would start. This still had to be agreed by all the 15 member Governments, however.

Two important economic deals with Turkey have been stalled for four years by Greek vetoes. Before Herr Kinkel's announcement, EU officials said last night that such deals had been attempted on several previous occasions and had fallen apart over details at the last moment. Final agreement may have to wait until a further EU ministers meeting next month.

Ministers yesterday finalised the details of a customs union with Turkey by ironing out last-minute problems over import rules for goods such as cut flowers, mandarins and textiles. Agreement on the customs union could unfreeze grants and loans to Turkey worth more than £600 million. Turkey has been trying to open negotiations for its own EU membership for several years without success but the customs union would give it the closest relations of any states close to the EU, save for Norway and Iceland.

Cyprus has been split between Greek and Turkish sectors since the Turkey invaded the island in 1974. A majority of EU and United Nations Governments recognise Greek-controlled Cyprus and do not recognise the Turkish-controlled northern sector. EU Governments, worried by the rising tensions between Greece and Turkey and in the Balkans in general, have been encouraged by signs that the Turkish Government may be ready to put pressure on the Turkish-Cypriot Government led by Mr Rauf Denktas to settle the protracted dispute.



Hans van den Broek, EU External Affairs Commissioner, recommended to the ministers yesterday that a firm date of six months after the conclusion of the 1996 conference on the Maastricht Treaty be set for the start of talks to admit Cyprus and Malta as EU members. But a number of Governments expressed fears yesterday that going so far to buy Greece's agreement to the economic deals with Turkey would reduce the chances of a long-term settlemnt on the island.

Dr Kinkel insisted that the EU make clear that Cyprus could not become a member until its division was ended and it became a federal state. "We do not want to import Cyprus's problems," he said.

Leading article, page 19

Catalans stand by González

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN BARCELONA

FELIPE GONZÁLEZ, the Spanish Prime Minister, faces the start of his tenth state of the nation debate in the Congress tomorrow with his personal credibility at an all-time low and his minority Government facing its worse crisis.

He knows, however, that he can count on the support of Jordi Pujol, the wily leader of the Catalan nationalists, who has had rare talks with the Popular Party, the main conservative opposition nationally, but believes that the Socialists are more likely to deliver what he wants. "The permanence of the Government is assured," Señor Pujol said at the weekend. "Our support is vigorous and solid. Policy will be formulated by the Socialists and us."

When the Socialists, in power since 1982, were re-elected with a minority in 1993, the 17 deputies representing Señor Pujol's nationalist alliance, Convergència i Unió, refused to form a coalition with Señor González, but kept him in power. Señor Pujol complains that Spain has been getting a bad foreign press. "Actually the Spanish economy is getting better," he said.

He takes credit for the modest recovery: "It has gone very well partly due to our policies." Since he represents Spain's main business region, Señor Pujol is keen to see an end to the uncertainty that has stunted growth and threatens to undermine the country's presidency of the European Union later this year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Austrian injured by bomb

Vienna: A man was injured yesterday when a bomb exploded in an Austrian town, less than two days after four gypsies were killed in a blast in the same region. Franz Loeschnak, the Austrian Interior Minister, said.

The bomb was planted in a dustbin in the town of Stinatz and went off when a rubbish collector emptied it. Herr Loeschnak said there were clues to suggest an ethnic motive behind the attack, but he did not mention right-wing extremists. *(Reuter)*

Town stormed

Kabul: The north Afghan town of Kunduz has fallen to forces opposed to President Rabbani, the Defence Ministry said. The troops were allied to General Abdul Rashid Dostum. *(Reuter)*

Arson attack

Mbabane: Suspected pro-democracy activists badly damaged Swaziland's parliament, just days before Baroness Chalker, the Overseas Development Minister, was due to make a speech there. *(AFP)*

Mother shot

Brussels: A boy of three shot his pregnant mother, who then gave birth prematurely, police said. The woman is in critical condition. The baby is expected to live. *(Reuter)*

Pacific quake

Wellington: An earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale took place in the Pacific about 77 miles southeast of New Zealand but there was no damage. *(AFP)*

Off the hook

Helsinki: Rescuers picked up two men who were drifting away to the open sea in the Gulf of Finland after the ice on which they were fishing broke away from the shore. *(Reuter)*

Walesa ultimatum

Warsaw: President Walesa called on the Polish Government to resign yesterday, or else he would dissolve the left-dominated Parliament, throwing the country into its greatest political crisis since the end of Communist rule (Patricia Koza writes).

"Either the Government will resign, or you will disband," Mr Walesa said at an acrimonious meeting with parliamentary leaders, including Waldemar Pawlak, the Prime Minister, whom Mr Walesa wants to replace. The President said a newspaper report that he was seeking to nominate General Tadeusz Wilecki, head of the army general staff, was an insult.

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Today we publish the first part of our list of concerts, with full details of those available in London and the regional concerts which take place next week. A full regional listing will appear next week.

Britain's leading orchestras take their place alongside major international ensembles. The concert halls range from the brand new Birmingham Symphony Hall to St Mary's Parish Church in Luton. Music making can take place anywhere!

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performs in London at the Barbican and the Royal Festival Hall and also in Bristol, Leicester, Nottingham and Southend. Among foreign orchestras on offer is the Warsaw State Philharmonic, with a busy schedule that takes in Birmingham, Carlisle, Edinburgh, Ipswich, Leicester and Northampton. The Stuttgart Philharmonic visits Edinburgh, Glasgow, Halifax and Southend.

The BBC is still the largest provider of music in Britain, with orchestras based in London, Manchester, Cardiff and Glasgow. You can see all four in our offer and take a friend for just 20p. Andrew Davis conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in performances of Elgar's Enigma Variations and the Violin Concerto played by Ida Haendel. As an orchestra with a reputation for new work, it has included the world premiere of David Sawer's Trumpet Concerto, and Hugh Wood's Symphony No 2, first played at the Proms in 1992, in its programmes.

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra can be found at the refurbished Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. St David's Hall, the national concert hall of Wales, is the best place to hear Wales's national orchestra, affectionately known as BBC NOW, under the leadership of its principal conductor, Tadaaki Otaka.

If you prefer music from around the world, try Blackheath Concert Halls in south London where concerts include a performance by a Japanese children's choir featuring classical and traditional Japanese music and a concert of Indian music played on traditional instruments. At Theatr Clwyd in Mold you can tap your feet to the Cajun Boat Band.

The BBC National Orchestra of Wales, which will be playing at St David's Hall, Cardiff, on February 18, conducted by Ion Martin

Music in the capital

Barbican Centre (0171 638 8891). *
Lindsay String Quartet: Tippett String Quartet No 4; Elgar String Quartet.
Feb 17; £7.50.
Lindsay String Quartet: Beethoven String Quartet Op 95; Tippett String Quartet No 5.
Feb 19; £7.50.
Joanna MacGregor Recital: Messiaen Vingt Regards Sur L'Enfant-Jesus.
March 5; £6, £10, £14.
London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Colin Davis; soloists: Faye Robinson, Maria Popescu, Laurence Dale, Stephen Richardson; London Symphony Chorus: Tippett The Mask of Time.
Feb 26; £6-£30.
London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Richard McNichol; Sumer Is Icumin In! Gershwin, Chabrier, Beethoven and Delius.
March 25; £3-£6.
National Youth Orchestra, conducted by Louis Fremaux. Berlioz Overture Les Francs Juges; Hindemith Mathis der Maler; Shostakovich Symphony No 12, "The Year 1917".
April 19; £4-£22.50.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Yehudi Menuhin; soloist Ida Haendel; Elgar In The South "Alassio"; Britten Violin Concerto; Vaughan Williams Symphony No 5; sponsored by Independent Insurance.
March 3; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras; soloist Steven Isserlis; Dvorak Overture "Carnival"; Cello Concerto and Symphony No 7; sponsored by NEC (UK).
March 15; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras; soloist Tasmin Little; Martinu The Frescoes of Piero della Francesca; Dvorak Violin Concerto and Dvorak In Nature's Realm; Janacek Sinfonietta; Royal Philharmonic Society Concert
March 17; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Jane Glover; soloist Christine Brewer; Schoenberg Verklarte Nacht; Strauss Four Last Songs; Mozart Symphony No 41, "Jupiter"; sponsored by Tring International.
April 13; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Paavo Jarvi; soloist Lars Vogt; Part Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten; Grieg Piano Concerto; Sibelius Symphony No 5.
May 7; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Vernon Handley; soloists: Haken Hardenberger and the Tallis Chamber Choir; Elgar Introduction and Allegro for Strings; Blake Watkins Trumpet Concerto (London premiere); Holst The Planets; sponsored by Tring International.
May 26; £5-£15.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Litton; soloists: Emma Johnson, Sylvia McNair; Piston The Miracle Flutist; Copland Concerto for Clarinet and Strings with Harp and Piano; Griffes The White Peacock; Barber Knoxville Summer of 1915; Gershwin An American In Paris.
June 7; £5-£15.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Litton; soloist Jon Kimura Parker; Harris Symphony No 3; Barber Piano Concerto; Copland Our Town; Bernstein Fancy Free.
June 9; £5-£15.
English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Raymond Leppard; soloists: Yvonne Kenny, Stephanie Gonley; Mozart Overture "Der Schauspieldirecktor' and Aria "Bella mia fiamma"; Viotti Violin Concerto in A minor; Haydn Scena di Berenice and Symphony No 103 "Drumroll".
Feb 22; £6-£19.
English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Raymond Leppard; soloist Imogen Cooper; Mozart Symphony No 34 in C; Piano Concerto No 15 in B Flat; Haydn Overture "Windsor Castle" and Symphony No 104 "London".
Feb 28; £6-£19.

Note of fun: Rusen Gunes, principal viola with the BBC SO

South Bank Centre: QEH (0171 928 8800). *
London Mozart Players, conducted by Matthias Bamert; soloist Justus Frantz; Stamitz Symphony No 3 Op 24; Mozart Piano Concerto Concerto No 27; Mozart Six Minuets; Beethoven Symphony No 1 in C, Op 21.
March 16; £8-£18.
Academy of St Martin in the Fields, directed by Kenneth Sillito; soloist Allison Eldredge; Mozart Symphony No 29; Haydn Cello Concerto in D; Bartok Divertimento; sponsored by Energis.
April 25; £8-£15. (0171 702 1377).
Academy of St Martin in the Fields, directed by Kenneth Sillito; soloist Horacio Franco; Handel Handel Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 11 Geminiani; Telemann, Concerto in C for Recorder, Handel Trio Sonata Op 2 No 4; Corelli Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 2; Vivaldi Concerto for Sopranino Recorder; Telemann Don Quichotte; sponsored by Nuclear Electric.
BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Davis; soloists Yvonne Loriod, Jeanne Loriod. BBC Singers: Messiaen Cinq Rechants and Turangalila Symph.
March 22; £10.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Marek Janowski; soloist Radu Lupu; Schumann Overture "Manfred"; Beethoven Piano Concerto No 1; Brahms Symphony No 2.
March 30; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Yuri Temirkanov; Shostakovich Symphony No 1; Tchaikovsky Symphony No 5.
April 22; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Jun-Ichi Hirokami; soloists: Boris Belkin, Inger Dam-Jensen; Webern Im Sommerwind; Shostakovich Violin Concerto No 1; Mahler No 4.
April 24; £5-£15.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies; soloist Della Jones; Mozart Symphony No 36 "Linz"; Maxwell Davies Stone Litany; Mendelssohn Symphony No 3 "Scottish".
May 10; £5-£15.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by David Atherton; soloist Imogen Cooper; Tchaikovsky/Stravinsky Pas de Deux Variation d'Aurore, Entr'acte symphonique; Mozart Piano Concerto No 23; Stravinsky Divertimento from Le Baiser de la Fée.
May 19; £5-£15.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Valery Gergiev; Mozart Symphony No 40; Mahler Symphony No 6; Royal Philharmonic Mariinsky-Kirov Series; sponsored by Independent Insurance.
May 31; £5-£27.
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Valery Gergiev; soloists Olga Borodina, Sergei Alexashkin; Berlioz Romeo and Juliet; Royal Philharmonic Mariinsky-Kirov Series; sponsored by Independent Insurance.
June 3; £5-£27.
Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Christoph von Dohnanyi; Brahms Symphony No 1 and Symphony No 3.
Feb 27; £5-£22.
Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Wolfgang Sawallisch; soloist Murray Perahia; Strauss Macbeth; Schumann Piano Concerto; Strauss Ein Heldenleben.
March 11; £5-£22.
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO), conducted by Sir Simon Rattle; soloist Paul Crossley.
Stravinsky Ballet Orpheus; Messiaen Trios Petites Liturgies de la Présence Divine; Bartok Concerto for Orchestra.
Feb 25; £17, £20, £25.
CBSO conducted by Sir Simon Rattle; soloists: Faye Robinson, Cynthia Clarey, Philip Langridge, Benjamin Luxon; Pavel Haas Study For Strings; Schoenberg A Survivor of Warsaw; Tippett A Child of Our Time; March 3; £17, £20, £25.
CBSO, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle; soloist Felicity Lott; Copland Appalachian Spring; Strauss Cloning Scene from Capriccio; Vaughan Williams Symph No 5; March 9; £17, £20, £25.
CBSO, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle; soloist Alfred Brendel; Britten, Schoenberg and Shostakovich; March 23; £17, £20, £25.
Blackheath Concert Halls (0181 463 0100)
Shizuoka Children's Choir; classical and traditional Japanese repertoire. Only London performance. March 31; £5.
Sheetal Mukherjee and Shiv Shankar Ray; Indian Classical music played on traditional instruments; April 2; £7.50.
Flute Recital; Patrick Williams and Peter O'Hagan; Bach Sonata No 6, Telemann, Reinecke, Enesco and Doppler; April 5; £8. Beethoven String Trio of London; Pavlo Beznosiuk, Jeremy Williams, Richard Tunnicliffe; Beethoven Trio in D Op 8 and Beethoven Trio in E flat Op 3; March 12; £7.50.
Candella, Eva Lution, Donna and K. B. B; International Women's Week Event; music From Ireland, Greece and South America; March 10; £7.
Marcia Pendlebury in Empress of the Blues; songs, narrative, jazz and jive dance; review based on the life of Bessie Smith; March 20; £7.50, £10.
Beethoven String Trio of London with John York; Haydn Trio Op 53 No 1 in G Major; Beethoven Trio Op 9 No 2 in D Major; Brahms Piano Quartet Op 60 No 3 in C Minor; March 10; £7.50.
Beethoven String Trio of London; Schubert Trio in B Flat; Beethoven Trio in C Minor Op 9 No 3; Brahms Piano Quartet in A Major Op 26 No 2; March 11; £7.50.
Beethoven String Trio of London; Beethoven Trio in G Major Op 9 No 1; Gideon Klein Trio (1944); Brahms Piano Quartet in G Major Op 25 No 1; March 12; £7.50.
Courtney Pine Quintet; Feb 25; £10, £12.50.
Endymion Ensemble: Mark van de Weil, Michael Dusseck and Jane Salmon; Beethoven Clarinet Trio; Burgmuller Sonata for Clarinet and Piano; Brahms Clarinet Trio; Feb 19; £7.50.
Giant Steppes and Jazz Voices, conducted by Diana McLoughlin; March 4; £7.

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Symphony Hall (0121 212 3333)
Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Arnold Katz; soloist Paul Crossley; Richard Strauss Symphonic Poem, Death and Transfiguration; Shostakovich Piano Concerto No 2; Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition; Feb 15; £19.50-£29.

BRIGHTON

The Dome (01273 709709)
Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Barry Wordsworth; soloist Richard Durrant; Fauré Pavane; Rodrigo Concierto d'Aranjuez; Vivaldi Mandolin Concerto in D; Mozart Symph No 39 in E flat; March 11; £7.50, £10.50, £13.50.

CARDIFF

St David's Hall (01222 371236/253900)
BBC National Orchestra of Wales, conducted by Ion Martin; soloist Simon Preston; Ravel Rapsodie Espagnole; Poulenc Organ Concerto; Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique; Feb 18; £3.50-£18.50.

CHELTENHAM

Pittville Pump Room (0242 227979)
Les Agrèments; soloists: Brinley Yare, Reiko Ichise, Katrina Brown; French court music from the turn of the 18th century; part of the Cheltenham Early Music series; Feb 17; £8.50, £12.50.

Guitarist Richard Durrant, who will play in Brighton

COVENTRY

Warwick Arts Centre (01203 524524)
Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Christoph Von Dohnanyi; Brahms Symphonies No 2 and No 4; Feb 18; £14.75, £18.25, £21.50.

EDINBURGH

Festival Theatre (031 529 6000)
BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Pinchas Steinberg; soloist Wolfgang Holmair; Beethoven Symphony No 7; Nicolai Overture The Merry Wives of Windsor; Mahler Leider Eines Fahrenden Gesellen; Wolf Leider; Beethoven Symphony No 7; Feb 19; £14.50-£22.50.

GLASGOW

The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall (0141 227 5511)*
Royal Scottish National Orchestra, conducted by Vernon Handley.
Soloists: Joaquin Achucarro, John Connell and the RSNO chorus. Tippett, Ritual Dances; Falla, Nights in The Gardens of Spain; Walton, Belshazzar's Feast.
Feb 25, £6 — £19

LEEDS

Leeds Town Hall (0113 241 6902/245 5505)
Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Arnold Katz; soloist Anatoli Safiulin; Prokofiev Suite Lieutenant Kije; Rachmaninov The Knight's Monologue; Tchaikovsky Symphony No 4; Feb 18; £6.50-£15.50.

LEICESTER

De Montfort Hall (0116 233 3111). Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Arnold Katz; soloist Paul Crossley; Strauss Death & Transfiguration; Prokofiev Piano Concerto No 3 in C; Rachmaninov Symphony No 3 in A minor; Feb 17; £4-£12.

MANCHESTER

Free Trade Hall (0161 834 1712)
Hallé Orchestra, conducted by John Currie; soloists: Jennifer Bern, . Jamie MacDougall, Robert Hayward; Haydn The Creation; Feb 19; £3-£19.50.
BBC Philharmonic, conducted by Vassily Sinaisky; soloists Sophia Larson, Poul Elming, Artur Korn; A Night of Wagner: Die Walkure Act One, Gotterdammerung excerpts; Siegfried's Rhine Journey; Siegfried's Funeral March; Immolation Scene; Feb 18; £3-£16.

MOLD

Theatr Clwyd (01352 755114)
John Mills, guitar.
Feb 28; £5.
Cajun Boat Band.
March 7; £4.

NORTHAMPTON

Derngate (016 04 24811)
Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Arnold Katz; soloist Paul Crossley; Prokofiev Suite, Lieutenant Kije; Prokofiev Piano Concerto No 3 in C; Rachmaninov Symphony No 3 in A Minor; Feb 19; £6-£20.

POOLE

Poole Arts Centre (01202 685222)
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mikhail Pletnev; Elgar Falstaff; Tchaikovsky Pathetique Symphony.
Feb 15; £6-£16.50.

SOUTHAMPTON

North Guild Civic Centre (01703 632601)
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mikhail Pletnev; Elgar Falstaff; Tchaikovsky Pathetique Symphony.
Feb 17; £6-£14

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The world has never been interested in the peaceful town of Dursley. But now the international media have taken over, **Bill Frost** writes

JULIAN HERBERT

Dursley, electronically linked to the world, finds a place in history: hotels in the area are full to bursting, local people charge the media for premium parking spaces, and the magistrates' court has been given an expensive face-lift

Awoken by a murder trial

Apparently impervious to the biting February wind, the underemployed formed an unholy alliance with the world's press outside Dursley magistrates' court in Gloucestershire early yesterday morning.

While waiting for justice to take its course in the case of Rosemary West — charged with ten counts of murder — the jobless howled and shouted obscenities to lucrative order while the television cameras rolled. Four young pram-pushing mothers won pride of place in this dubious photo-opportunity as they bellowed slogans which would have them turfed out of even the rowdiest football ground.

Until yesterday the most dramatic event in the life of this small Gloucestershire town was in 1699 when, according to Nikolaus Pevsner, the spire of the medieval parish church of St James — and much of its tower — collapsed. Tradition also has it that Shakespeare once lived in the town, a local legend based on a placename mentioned in *Henry IV Part 2*.

But now the town is welcoming the international press with open arms. Schoolchildren dance and grimace before the cameras during their lunch break while their parents frown menacingly for Belgian, German, French and American photographers with fat wallets and countless rolls of film.

By the time the police van carrying Mrs West, who pleads not guilty to all the charges against her, arrived at the court, the television crews had already rounded up the most photogenic subjects they could find to bellow and blaspheme. The first take having proved unsatisfactory, the performers were lined up once more to play the scene again. "This time a bit louder if you can," said an American network producer.

Carol James had travelled specially from Gloucester for the occasion. "It's like your 15 seconds of fame. Jump in front of the cameras and see yourself on the TV news or in the paper, but that's second best, of course," the 18-year-old one-time shop assistant explained.

At 10am the reporters are summoned before Peter Gilmour Noto Badge, the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, to be reminded of rules covering committal hearings which many have long forgotten or sometimes chosen to ignore. Mr Badge, who favours black jacket and pinstripes, even provides a printed aide memoire should a sip of lunch confuse some of the foreign press corps.

Even more unusually, he also offers a potted biography. Mr Badge is chairman and founding father of the Coracle Society. When not dispensing justice, he devotes himself to keeping alive the ancient art of making and paddling the craft. In the 1964 general election he trailed third as the Liberal candidate for Windsor and Maidenhead.

The Lord Chancellor's Department said that Gloucester magistrates had asked for Mr Badge to hear the committal. "It does happen quite often with committals," a spokesman said, "where it is a serious case and the court feels there should be a stipendiary magistrate, because they are full-time. They asked for Mr Badge because he is one of the country's most senior magistrates, probably the most senior, and a former Crown court recorder."

Be that as it may, by mid-morning yesterday the foreign press were thoroughly confused. "What exactly is happening now? I just don't understand a word of this at all. It is baffling," said the young woman representing a Belgian newspaper after listening to submissions from Mrs West's barrister.

Three hundred yards down the road and half an hour later the Kingshill Inn is doing splendid business. Mr Badge has adjourned the proceedings and, in the absence of anything better to occupy their time, the media circus has gathered before the bar in strength.

Allan Witts, the landlord, beams at his thirsty customers, knowing he was right to take on more bar and kitchen staff to cope with the extra demand. "This is the only pub handy for the court, so I am expecting a lot of extra mouths to feed and water," he says. "We don't have any more rooms to let, because we have BBC Television, BBC Radio and Reuters, who have all made arrangements to work here during the week. So we will be right in the thick of it."

As red-faced locals jostle for position at the bar with reporters, an acrimonious altercation unfolds when a French television crew attempts to film the press at play. Some journalists turn their backs to the camera while most sensibly run for cover.

"What is wrong. Why are you all so shy?" asks the producer as the pack disperses in panic.

Back at the court Carol James is still posing for photographs. "It is a bit chilly but I don't mind the weather, provided I get my picture somewhere," she says, turning her collar against the wind.

Cameras, cables and satellite dishes surround the court, and more high-tech gadgetry is being moved in by the hour. The locals love it: they are charging the electronic media for prime parking spaces. Pat Connors, mayor of Dursley, said: "The town has never experienced anything like this. It will be like Cheltenham during race week."

Magistrates last sat in Dursley two years ago. Since then the red-brick court has been mothballed and cases have been heard ten miles away in Stroud. Now £17,000 has been spent on new carpets, locks, power points, barriers and an audio link to relay the proceedings to journalists who cannot find seats in the court itself.

Hotels in the town, and for miles around, are cashing in furiously on the decision by the Lord Chancellor's Department to switch the case from Gloucester to prevent clogging up the city's courts. Special press menus, with complementary bottles of house wine, are in evidence.

Carol James, blue with the cold by late afternoon yesterday, would like nothing better than a place in the public gallery. I want to be inside that court so I can be part of it, part of history. After all, I've got nothing else to do."

Made herself a walking, living doll

If you look like Barbie, will it protect you from a horrible, nasty world?

An extraordinary vision slithers through the door in a little eddy of giggles, high heels and shiny handbags. It has a pink dolly face with skin suggestive of marzipan, bright yellow hair with matching curled fringe, flawless dentistry, wide crimson lips and a pert Playboy bunny figure. The vision is human: yet somehow it seems slightly apart from the mainstream of the human race.

This is because the body belongs to Cindy Jackson, probably the only self-proclaimed living Barbie doll in north Highgate. Ms Jackson has just emerged from her 19th cosmetic surgery operation. In the last seven years she has become to the vanity-cosmetic-surgery industry what Imelda Marcos was to the Italian shoe industry.

"I think I have achieved my goal of looking like Barbie, but I'm still pushing new boundaries," she says, grinning almost to the point of post-operative make-up damage. "My image of Barbie is of a beautiful, vulnerable, cute woman with long legs, a small chin, wide eyes, soft skin . . ." The list rambles on and I begin to wonder whether, like the plastic fashion doll, her feet have been reshaped into a permanent tip-toe position so that she can slip from her high-heeled fluffy pompom mules to strappy sandals.

Frank and specific, she lists her recent operations in the way that most of us run through the films we've seen in the last couple of months. Multiple dermabrasion, two nose jobs, two chemical face peels, breast implants and removals and liposuction vacuuming work all over the place. She points out a mole on her cheek at nose level that used to be down near her jawbone. It travels north each time her face is lifted.

Her latest brush with the scalpel was with a "heavy-duty face lift". "They pulled my face off, did some work in my cheek area — that's one of my problem areas — and scraped the tissue off while someone held the skin back with tongs."

Ms Jackson's obsession began in 1988 when she went to a surgeon asking for a face lift. "I wanted beauty, I wanted glamour, and I wanted it bad — so bad that I was prepared to mutilate myself beyond recognition."

JAMES MORGAN

Cindy, doll: "I wanted glamour and I wanted it bad."

American B-grade television dramas seem to have shaped her speech as well as her nose and jaw.

I came from nowhere and I wanted power, and thought that if I looked young and pretty I could have it. And you know what? I've got it."

But guess what else? Ms Jackson is not all that thrilled with it. Her definition of power seems to revolve around reducing men to the consistency of jellied consommé. She seems to despise men, but since she's gone to all this trouble of attracting them, she grits her pretty teeth and flirts.

That she has been in more laps than a napkin since turning into a Barbie doll, is not in itself particularly interesting, but when I suggest that her preoccupations with power and prettiness are not readily associated with a cosy home life, she narrows her wide eyes and makes a face unlike any I have ever seen on a teenage fashion doll.

"Some women deal with today's horrible, nasty world with alcohol; some gorge themselves with food or eat nothing. I've created a front and I hide behind that. I'm not saying that what I have is a problem. I just. . ." Risking a stabbing with an eyebrow pencil, I suggest that she might perhaps just have a teeny bit of a problem.

Those eyes crank closed and then get winched open again (she put on a thick pair of "demi lashes" especially for the interview). But, being Barbie, she is not prepared to discuss this and moves on to deliver a swift tutorial on the benefits of flirting with millionaires. 'I have no interest in serious relationships. Most men when they become besotted with me are just falling in love with an image. I don't respect them, but who the hell would deny themselves luxury, fast cars, top-rate food and sensual pleasures, and the chance to have running after them the kind of men that most women would die for?"

It is hard to imagine the depths of this poor woman's delusion. But then the childhood she describes was not exactly conducive to a happy and stable adulthood. "My mother and sister were pretty but I was ugly. I was a nobody." She was raised on an isolated farm in Ohio, and her early life seems to have been moulded by the intention of getting away from her family.

Soon after she moved to England, her father died leaving her sufficient funds to embark on her physical re-engineering, and she has since underwritten her £35,000 worth of surgery with the earnings from her consulting service for people considering cosmetic surgery.

In three months Ms Jackson turns 40 and reckons that she has another 20 Barbie years ahead of her. What with all that man-conquering to be done and the time spent on operations and convalescing and the consultancy to run, it's just as well there aren't too many career opportunities beckoning for a professional Barbie doll in north Highgate.

JOANNA PITMAN

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Turn that station down

Radio 1 needs DJs who like the sound of music

RADIO 1 was never a passion: indeed, I can't say that I was ever in to the pop thing in a professional-teenager way. But the other day I found myself drawn back to it, if only to hear for myself what it's really like now and not just what the ratings, and the pundits, say it's like. The ratings are easily explained, it turns out: whizzing along the dial I came upon a dozen Radio 1s which revealed themselves as Capital, or Kiss, or a couple of kids with an illegal transmitter and a bunch of heavy-on-the-bass CDs, only when the jingly station ident was played.

But, I found it, and guess what: the station which was vacuous and silly in the Seventies is still vacuous and silly. But whereas it used to be idiotic in an upbeat kind of way, now it is droney and depressing.

NIGELLA LAWSON

WITH SOME exceptions the tone is aggressively amateurish, as if to appear professional would in some way be uncool. Much of youth broadcasting works on the daft principle that the more amateurish a presenter is the more personable he or she seems. It's not just that most of the DJs are part of the Gerry Anderson school of broadcasting (motto: I'll take breaths where I like) but they give off a so-whatish listlessness that is as boring as it is boorish. However silly Radio 1 was before, the feeling behind it all was that this was a laugh: now it seems it's all just a drag.

I suppose this is partly out of a sense of embarrassment about the Smashie and Nicey days (and this is why, I'd guess, the DJs now don't prattle to each other quite so uninhibitedly) and partly because it probably *isn't* as much fun. Being a Radio 1 DJ isn't as hip as it would have been 20 years ago.

I cannot fail here to sound unfashionably metropolitan, but Radio 1's obsession with being regional doesn't help matters either. The whole deal about pop music is that is listened to by teenagers in the sticks and the suburbs who dream of something bigger, better: where it's happening.

The plugs for the station have lots of self-consciously young people apparently finishing the sentence "I listen to Radio 1 because . . ." "There's a lot of music, not too much talking" is the general line. But there is so little talking that it is impossible to get a sense of character.

But why *should* I like any of it? I listen to Radio 4 and Capital Gold, and have not the profile a youth radio station is after. And that must be linked to another difficulty. When I was in my teens the pop audience was really no bigger than a generation and a half. Now it goes up just about to 60-year-olds. And a larger pop audience, especially when pop has been so fragmented, is harder to please. As in politics, so in pop: Single-issue music has taken over.

Radio 1 is trying to keep everyone happy, and the emphasis on youth gets in the way. It didn't have a remit when it started: having one now isn't helping. I think it should just get people on who like playing records.

Standards of sleaze

THE SLEAZE muse seems to be on something of a learning curve. First — such an age ago its seems — it was a sacking offence and then only if you couldn't get your resignation in quickly enough.

Now sleaze has reached its apotheosis as something to be welcomed — a sort of fashion accessory for the man who has nothing. On the front page of yesterday's *Sun* are pictures of the country's two most famously boring men: John Major and Jason Donovan. The one seems to have been a toyboy — that's toy as in "Dinky" I imagine — to a "divorced mum 13 years older than him" some 30 years ago; the other has snorted a couple of lines of cocaine. Will the Prime Minister deny his romance? Will Jason repolish his purposefully tarnished image? I think not. It all smells like a put up job to me.

If you were reading this in our new Club Europe

If British doctors are old-fashioned, are their textbooks to blame? Sifting the evidence, **Dr Thomas Stuttaford** sounds a note of caution

Are our doctors dangerously out of date?

BRITISH doctors often pride themselves, sometimes misguidedly, on their conservatism in a medical rather than a political sense. Increasingly this contrasts with the interventionist approach of American medicine.

At a recent international conference in Lisbon on the treatment of malignant disease, worrying figures were presented on the difference between the survival rates of American patients with cancer of the prostate and those in Britain, where less radical procedures are preferred. Likewise, in general practice hundreds of thousands of lives in Britain must have been put at risk, even sacrificed, because of the reluctance of British doctors to treat hypertension (high blood pressure) adequately. Only recently have standards of treatment long since accepted elsewhere become the rule here.

Dr Ian Chalmers, of the UK Cochrane Centre in Oxford, attributes some of the sins of omission or commission in British doctors to standard textbooks that advocate procedures so outdated as to be dangerous. He quotes two examples: the textbooks' condemnation of the use of antibiotics in measles, a policy which when carried to extremes must, as he says, have cost lives; and the lukewarm welcome given by the textbooks' authors to the thrombolytic agents (or clot-busters) for the immediate treatment of a coronary thrombosis.

In most viral infections, including measles, antibiotics do not immediately affect the course of the disease as they have no influence on the initial symptoms. But in the elderly, frail, undernourished and for those who for some other reason have a poor immune response, the early use of antibiotics may prevent secondary, sometimes lethal, bacterial infections. Antibiotics therefore have an important place to play in the treatment in many, but not all, infections which have had a viral origin. There are many instances in which the sequelae of an upper respiratory tract infection (or flu) have been allowed to run rampant for weeks because of the belief that if an infection was initially viral antibiotics would not be of any value.

Clot-busters are destined to have an equally important role in saving lives but their use is as yet a hospital-based treatment.

Dr Chalmers may attribute a laisser faire approach to medicine to the inadequacies of textbooks; but textbooks will always be out of date by the time they are published. Their use must be supplemented by reading the journals.

Others prefer to blame the lack of advances in treatment on a medical philosophy which puts too great a faith in nature's healing power. Those who remember pre-war general practice will not fall into that trap. But today there is a new restriction: cost. Doctors are being asked to practise simultaneously as physician and accountant, to balance their patients' speed of recovery, or even survival, against profits for the fund-holding practice, the local hospital trust and the NHS budget. Sometimes the prescription of some drug or some long-since outdated procedure can only be accounted for, if not justified, on the grounds of saving money.

Doctors who want to serve their patients need to read journals as well as textbooks and to attend lectures regularly. Then, eschewing political correctness from the right or left, they must do what is best for the patient's health — the only decision which their education has fitted them to take.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Four years after his heart attack Sir Peter Imbert plays golf once a week and exercises regularly. A decade ago he would have retired early and been treated like an invalid

How I walked back to health and fitness

Sir Peter Imbert tells **Aileen Ballantyne** the secrets of his recovery from a heart attack

Sir Peter Imbert, 61, the former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, is considerably fitter than far younger men. He walks many miles every week, plays golf, regularly travels to India, Russia and Australia and now, among many advisory and consultancy roles, chairs the security committee of the National Lottery. None of this is surprising, perhaps, for an ex-police officer, but just over four years ago Sir Peter was taken to hospital after a heart attack.

A decade ago, perhaps, that would have been the last we would have heard of a public figure who held the most important policing job in the country. He would have retired gracefully and treated himself like an invalid. But recent research on heart disease has shown that this is the wrong approach. Many prominent heart-attack patients, such as Michael Heseltine, Sir Robin Day and John Cole, have shown that it is possible to return to demanding positions.

"I know people with the same problem I have who were once told they would 'never be the same again'," says Sir Peter. "Because they believe it, they are not. Your mental attitude to recovery is the most important thing."

Sir Peter continued as Metropolitan Police Commissioner for two years after his heart attack. In all, he served five and a half years before retiring six months after the normal length of time for the job. His ability to go on — and his continued good health — are not an accident; they are the result of recent discoveries about the importance of moderate exercise after a heart attack and Sir Peter's determination to incorporate them into his daily life.

"I'm in no doubt that the reason I had a heart attack in the first place was my lifestyle. I was having too many dinners and lunches, working long hours and taking hardly any exercise. I quite often did two television appearances a day and on the day of our annual report I did 21."

Being near a large modern hospital when a heart attack happens is an enormous advantage. When Sir Peter had his — at 4.45pm on October 29, 1990 — he was being driven by a police driver after riding his horse in a rehearsal for the State Opening of Parliament. The driver switched on the siren and flashing blue light tucked behind the front grille of the Commissioner's Jaguar and, in spite of rush-hour traffic, they were at St Thomas' Hospital within minutes.

There he was given an injection of a clot-busting drug to dissolve any clots that might have built up in the coronary arteries. Studies have shown that this treatment given as soon as possible after a heart attack greatly reduces the damage done to the heart muscle, and has cut the number of deaths from heart attacks in hospital by up to 50 per cent.

Like many people who have had a heart attack, Sir Peter now takes a low dose of aspirin every day. Aspirin is thought to make certain blood cells less "sticky", thus reducing the blood's ability to clot. He also takes angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors daily, which improve the blood flow to the heart.

In January 1991, Sir Peter underwent a form of bypass surgery which involved connecting the left internal mammary artery — which normally supplies blood to part of the chest wall — to the diseased artery in his heart, providing a new blood supply to the affected area. Bypass surgery at least doubles the chances of survival for over five years after an attack, and for someone like Sir Peter, in whom the mammary artery can be used, the success rate is thought to be even better.

Six months to the day after his heart attack, Sir Peter returned to his job a stone and a half lighter. "I've managed to keep most of that off and I know from the regular checks I have at St Thomas' that I'm fitter than the average person my age."

He keeps his weight and cholesterol level down by following a low-fat diet most days. This consists of a breakfast of porridge, skimmed milk and honey, and main meals of fish and vegetables. "It tastes wonderful because my wife is a great cook — but I miss cheese-and-onion sandwiches and fruit cake."

He is a regular after-dinner speaker and often eats out. If asked, he opts for "vegetarian, low cholesterol", but as often as not he eats what is put in front of him but avoids cheese and chocolate.

His approach to exercise is now highly disciplined. Sir Peter walks two miles on a walking machine at home at least twice a week, and exercises his dog for at least 45 minutes three times a week. Once a week he also plays golf.

The question of reduction in working hours and stress levels is less clear cut. When Sir Peter was preparing to return to work he vowed to delegate more, but found that in practice some things could not be delegated. "When there are questions, as leader of the organisation you have to stand up and either take the blame or put the facts straight."

But perhaps the most important decision affecting his recovery from a heart attack was one he took some 40 years ago: he admits to coveting the image of the pipe-smoking "thinking policeman" when he was an aspiring young detective in his twenties. "The problem was that I couldn't speak with the pipe in my mouth. It went out when I took it out of my mouth only to light up again in my pocket. I gave up after two months."

Smoking is the most important factor in accelerating the artery-clogging process of heart disease.

He admits that having a heart attack changes you forever. He appreciates his four grandchildren — three of whom were born after his attack — more than he thought possible, and takes pleasure in simple things such as exercise. He is also determined that none of this will become an obsession and prevent him from living a completely normal life.

"It's a bit like golf really," says Sir Peter. "It's all a matter of playing your percentages."

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From the cradle to criminality

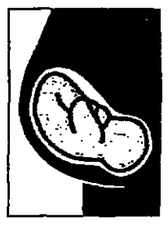
What makes a violent criminal? **Dr Simon Wessely** on research that throws new light on this question

There are few more controversial areas of research than the causes of violent crime, which so often come down to polemics on the lines of nature versus nurture.

Simple genetic explanations, such as the claim that violent males had an extra Y chromosome, are now discredited. Nevertheless, more careful work has continued to support the idea of a genetic contribution. Much of this research has taken place in Scandinavia, not because the Swedes or Danes are more violent, but because those countries possess superb data systems, including twin registers, essential for the conduct of proper genetic research.

Studies comparing identical and non-identical twins, and also the outcome of adopted children, have provided convincing evidence of a modest genetic contribution to crime. Another line of inquiry has looked at the effect of early brain damage, such as might be acquired at birth, and found a link with later violent crime.

Nowadays nobody would claim that either genetics or brain damage is the cause of violent crime or that social factors such as the family environment are unimportant. There is no doubt that the ways parents deal with their children plays a crucial role in the development of criminal behaviour. Modern researchers no longer ask the question of nurture versus nature, but instead how nurture influences nature — what factors are involved in the pathways from birth to later criminality.



Simple genetic theories are now discredited

A report in the latest issue of *Archives of General Psychiatry* provides one answer. Adrian Raine and colleagues at the University of Southern California have studied all the 4,269 males born at the maternity hospital in Copenhagen between 1959 and 1961. The Danish hospitals keep meticulous records of the circumstances of delivery and any possible complications. One year later all the children were followed up and further information obtained on the home and family circumstances.

The research team then linked this information with the Danish National Criminal Register, which records all police contacts and criminal convictions for all Danish citizens. By the age of 19, 16 per cent of the males had a criminal record, with 3 per cent having a conviction for a violent offence.

Dr Raine, who comes from the North East of England, thus created a unique opportunity to study the links between birth complications, family environment and later violent criminality. He first found that those who had experienced birth complications alone did not have an increased risk of violent offending.

Those whose birth had been normal, but had suffered parental rejection, which the researchers defined as either an unwanted pregnancy, failed attempts to abort the pregnancy, or the infant being sent to a public institution in the first year of life, were also no more at risk.

However, those who had both a difficult delivery and then had experienced parental rejection were substantially more likely to end up with a conviction for violent offences.

Furthermore, difficult deliveries combined with parental rejection was associated later only with violent crime and not crime in general.

This research is a milestone in understanding the links between early environment and later behaviour. The authors postulate that birth complications result in early, albeit slight, brain damage that is associated with difficulties in learning and with self control. These might lead to later difficulties at school, and then with employment.

Problems start to develop if this predisposition is linked with a disruption to the normal processs of bonding between mother and child. Poor early bonding may be associated with later difficulties in emotional relationships, and a reduced capacity to express and feel affection. It is the combination of the early damage to the central nervous system succeeded by further disruption in the normal development of personality and feeling that is important.

Writing in this week's *British Medical Journal*, David Farrington of the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge, and Professor Jonathan Shepherd, a Cardiff surgeon with an interest in the effects of violence, conclude that although much of the research on crime prevention has concentrated on the availability of weapons and better protection of premises and vehicles, early interventions, such as increasing family support and preschool education, are also effective in reducing later offending.

The new research from Denmark adds to the case that increasing the care-giving skills of parents at risk might also intervene to break the links between biological predisposition and later violent offending.

● *Dr Simon Wessely is senior lecturer in psychological medicine at King's College School of Medicine.*

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Major's three steps to Euro peace

Bruce Anderson offers the Conservatives a middle way

John Major made a good speech on Friday: he set out a position on Europe which most of his party could accept. Morale rose. Then what? Within hours the Euro wrangling had resumed.

No wonder Mr Major is exasperated, but it is partly his fault. Despite Friday, despite the Frost interview, the Leiden speech and his *Economist* article, he has still not answered all the questions. Nor has he given ministers a Euro hymn-book, with different tunes for differing tastes but all following the canons of orthodoxy and from which all must sing.

To reunite his party, Mr Major will have to do three things: deal with the linked questions of a single currency and a referendum; gently box the ears of the extremists on both wings; and set out his own vision.

Many Tories are becoming ridiculously over-excited over a single currency, as if the issue had to be resolved before Easter. But far from detailed proposals being on the table, there are not even any on the horizon. If the single currency does emerge — still an "if" — it is unlikely to be much before the end of the century. No British government could be indifferent to such a momentous step by our major trading partners, but there would be plenty of time to examine the details — and no need for a quick decision. There would indeed be an argument for waiting at least five years before committing ourselves: let others endure the teething pains. As long as inflation is under control, as now, there should not be any serious monetary policy pressures to join.

> Upsetting Ted Heath is a necessary first step

There are of course questions of principle, which go deeper than monetary policy. On those, I suspect that John Major is nearer to Jonathan Aitken than to Kenneth Clarke. Mr Major would not wish to see British economic sovereignty pass away from these islands — and he does not believe that any British government could contemplate such a measure without a referendum.

But none of this may arise. The putative single currency may end up diminishing into no more than a revamped hard ecu: a sort of Euro gold standard. In that case, it might seem sensible to take part. But there is no need to strike dogmatic postures now about the details of political debate in ten years' time.

A statement along those lines should calm any Eurosceptic amenable to reason. That group also needs to be reminded of the facts of Euro life. If all problems could be solved by British willpower, Margaret Thatcher would have done so during her premiership. As we are not the only strong-willed member of the EU, it is not possible to have our own way on every issue. There is no alternative to negotiation and compromise.

But there is one exception to that rule: the inter-governmental conference next year. Then, we will have a veto, and there will be no reason not to use it. In 1985, we wanted the single market. Last time, we were keen on enlargement. Those were expensive items, for which we had to pay. But this time, all we want is less of the same. So we could contemplate the possible failure of the conference with equanimity. It would be far better to reduce the summit to rubble than to agree to a bad deal.

If there were to be a rubble-strewn result, it would not lead to the breakdown of our relationship with the EU. It would simply mean that the negotiations would restart later on a more realistic basis.

Any such outcome would cause Ted Heath, Geoffrey Howe and Hugh Dykes great distress. No outcome which does not have that effect will be acceptable to the rest of the Conservative Party. Upsetting Sir Edward may not be a sufficient condition for a good European policy; it is certainly a necessary one.

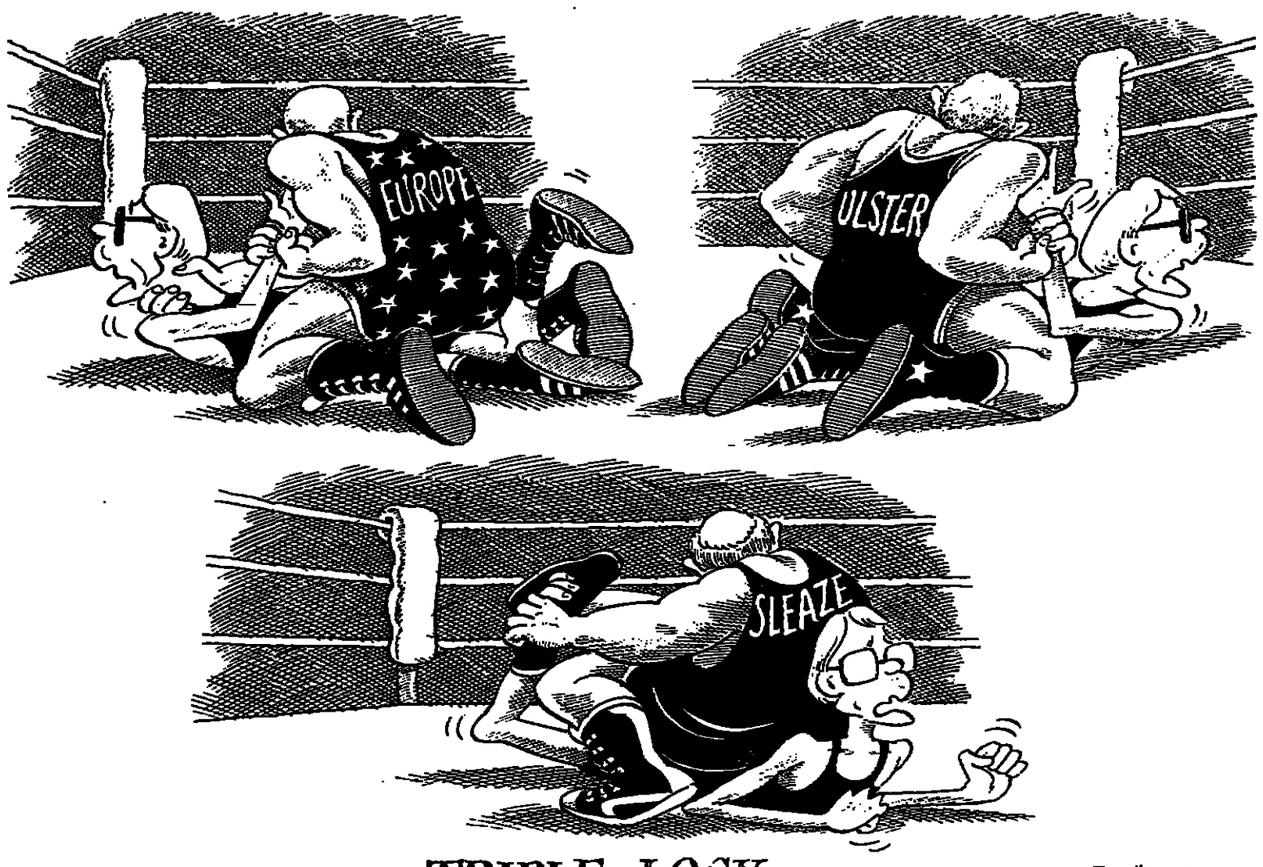
Sir Edward, Lord Howe and their allies think that they are working to strengthen Britain's position in Europe. In reality, they are sabotaging it. If the British people — and the Tory party — came to believe that the only alternatives were federalism or withdrawal, they would ultimately opt for withdrawal.

But it is possible to rescue the European cause from the fanatics. There is a Euro ideal available, to which Britain could respond, and which is far more worthy of the legacy of Monnet and Hallstein than is bureaucratic navel-gazing in Brussels.

This new Euro ideal has two aspects. The first is work. Europe cannot work unless Europeans are working, so job-creation must be at the heart of the EU's concern. The present strategy — regulation, social chapter, high costs — does create jobs. It creates them in the United States, in the Far East, in Britain as long as we have the opt-outs: everywhere except in the countries which apply it, several of which now have catastrophic levels of youth unemployment. If Europe's young are to enjoy the future they deserve, the strategy has to be changed, and British ministers who fight to do so are not being anti-European. They are working in Europe's best interests.

The second challenge comes from the east. In the post-war years, the EEC helped the shattered nations of Western Europe to rebuild their economies and institutions. Now the victims of Yalta have to perform a similar exercise. They may not yet be ready for full membership of the EU, but it is vital to bring them into a relationship, and thereby lock them into the rule of law, democracy and the free market.

That is a Euro cause worthy of loyalty. It is what John Major had in mind when he spoke of being at the heart of Europe. It should be enough to satisfy the Cabinet's Euro-enthusiasts, Messrs Clarke, Gummer and Heseltine. They ought to recognise that it is the best they can hope for. Mr Major could do all this; but he must take a lead.



Because it is the law

However high feelings may run, talk of rights cannot override legal freedoms

Bernard Levin

I thought I should have nothing more to say on the subject of "animal rights" after I had expended some 1,500 words on the matter, but to my own surprise I find myself going back to the story only a few weeks later. My first article was devoted to the organisations whose members threaten violence against anyone who takes a contrary view of this complex subject. Let me quote something from my previous article, to set the scene. From an anonymous source (no martyrdom for them!) I read this:

> We are capable of dealing with anyone. No one has died yet, but that time will come. For now we have to make their disgusting lives hell so they won't want to live.

I digested that charming *billet-doux*, and continued:

> When I read those words, my mind flashed back — I would guess many people's would — to Jews being rounded up in the earlier days of Nazism, when it did not need much perspicacity to know that those using such language would not stop at making their victims' disgusting lives hell, but would in time extinguish those disgusting lives altogether.

So far, their wishes have not come true, but it is surely only a matter of time. Only a few months ago, bombs were planted in Harrogate and York; their intended targets, were charity shops for the Cancer Research Fund. Only a few weeks ago, William Waldegrave (the minister dealing with the veal problem) was sent razor-blades in his post. Alasdair Palmer of *The Spectator* has counted, over a period of two years, 29 incendiary bombs and 42 letter bombs; in addition, there have been 61 packages containing razor blades, packed to injure anyone opening them. (There must have been tremendous joy among them on the day that one of their bombs went off and seriously injured a child of 13 months, a joy somewhat dampened when they found that the child had not actually been killed.)

As I have pointed out several thousand times, the animal rights gangs have no interest in the well-being of animals: who has ever seen an animal righter taking a dog to the vet, or binding up the paw of an injured cat? (When, for instance, they broke into a fur-farm and released all the animals, they knew, but did not care, that the animals would all suffer a fate much worse than that they would have had from the furriers.)

Very well; these things happen. But why am I coming back to the subject so soon? It is because there is another layer to this argument, and a layer very much more important than the one concerning the well-being of the animals. When the original row broke out, concerning the condition of the animals that were destined for the French and Belgian plates, it was impossible to distinguish those kind-hearted people who were truly horrified at the animals' fate from the thugs whose only wish was to cause as much havoc as possible. Indeed, after a time, many of the kind-hearts withdrew, rightly thinking that their cause was being stained.

But in the melée, something happened — something much more important than whether the calves were treated well or badly. The law was broken.

And it was broken by people — hundreds, if not thousands of people — who would not take a single penny from a millionaire unless the millionaire said that they could, and by people who would not drive six inches at 31 miles an hour if the traffic sign said 30, and by people who would in no circumstances drop a sweet-wrapper on the pavement, and by people who would run away immediately if anyone suggested that it would be fun to tap a tambourine (very gently) after, say, half-past-eight in the evening.

Yes, the law was broken, but if these people, law-abiding from their heads to their heels, feel it right to break the law (only the special law, mind, not the laws which forbid us to rob banks, to get drunk in the streets or to smash the windscreens of parked cars), because animals may somewhere be suffering, well, then, it is obvious that they are right in their beliefs. And, therefore, armed with genuine righteousness, they broke the law. And who shall say that that is wrong?

Me.

I cannot put it better than did Robert Bolt in his play *A Man for all Seasons*, so I won't try to, and instead I quote. The play is about St Thomas More, and Roper, his son-in-law, is urging More to actions that might save More from the scaffold. Here is the exchange

More: The law, Roper, the law. I know what's legal, not what's right. And I'll stick to what's legal . . . What would you do? Cut a great road through the law to get after the Devil?
Roper: I'd cut down every law in England to do that!
More: Oh? And when the last law was down and the Devil turned round on you — where would you hide, Roper, the laws all being flat? This country's planted thick with laws from coast to coast — Man's laws, not God's — and if you cut them down — and you're just the man to do it — d'you really think you could stand upright in the winds that would blow then?

Now look at a few results of the contemporary Ropers and what they have done with their immovable certainty that they are right and everybody who disagrees with them is wrong. What about Mr Ernest Oliver, who is 73?

> The wharf-owner at the centre of demonstrations against live animal exports . . . was . . . under police guard after he fired warning shots over the heads of militant demonstrators who tried to tear down the gates of his country home and hurled lumps of concrete at the house . . . "A hundred of them turned up, screaming and shouting . . . They terrified my wife and me, smashed the house gates and broke down two security gates . . . The next day the local council had the cheek to tell a public meeting there had been peaceful protest outside the house."

The clue is not the shouting and throwing lumps of concrete: it is the words of the councillor. He condemned the violence, as those in charge of these things must, but he did not condemn the annoyance and trouble that those who want to go about their own business are suffering. And, much worse, the peaceful crowds have ruined businesses altogether and been proud of doing so. Hear the headlines (oh, yes, you can *hear* the headlines in this business): "Protesters claim victory in battle over animal exports." And underneath the sinister — yes, sinister — words, we read: "The owner of Brightlingsea wharf in Essex is putting his dock business up for sale . . ."

And I tell you that unless this trend is reversed we are on the slide to the destruction of our laws, and ultimately our entire world. *Why* must the owner of Brightlingsea dock sell it, when his business there is perfectly legal? Why? Because the peaceful mob will not let him, and I say again that unless the peaceful mob is dispersed, we are done for.

The excuses for breaking the law pour out: the animals are being ill-treated; ordinary people, having nothing to do with the thugs, are joining the marches in tens of thousands, so they must be right; if the owners of docks and wharfs are using them for transporting the animals, then they have only themselves to blame if they are ruined; yes, we are breaking the law, but we claim a higher law.

Amid the noise, a Mr Bene't Steinberg reminded us, in a letter to *The Times*, of what we should not have forgotten:

> . . . The defence of mass picketing which puts fear into those legitimately going about their business, and can lead to mob violence, reminds me of the weasel words used at the time of the mass pickets at the Grunwick plant and the Orgreave coking plant. If it was right for the country and Government to support the police in those two conflicts, it is right for us to give our support to the police now. Or is it the fact that it is largely middle-class people, not striking miners, who are causing the trouble which deprives the chief constables of vociferous public and political support?

For all its trappings and majesty, the law is a fragile instrument, and if it is broken — *in whatever cause* — something very much more important than the trappings and majesty is lost. Our law is the lifeblood of our democracy, and we live under the law's shadow. Through the centuries, our law has been, however imperfect, the one thing that has stood the test of time. Shall we break it now? I tell you that if you do so, you will never be able to put it together again.

Poorer without politicians

Lord Young says former ministers enhance business

Gordon Brown woke up one morning with a big idea: that former ministers should be barred for five years from employment by companies for which they have had responsibility. It is an idea that has paid short-term dividends for his party — but not for the future of government. What I and many others are becoming increasingly concerned about is the effect of his continuing assault on former ministers and civil servants entering the world of business.

The Nolan committee will look into the propriety of the behaviour of MPs, as well as the behaviour of lobby groups. During my time in Government, we all knew who the lobby groups were and which members had special interests, and as a general rule ignored much of what they ever said. Indeed, in my view, the clients of the parliamentary lobby groups waste their money. But my concern is not with Members of Parliament. It goes far deeper.

Nor is this a defence of my own position. Accused at first of privatising Cable & Wireless (which was done five Secretaries of State after my time), then of regulating the company (Cable & Wireless operates overseas and is not regulated here: Mercury is regulated by Oftel, not the Department of Trade and Industry), I was told in the end that having been in the DTI and the Cabinet, I should not go back to my old life. One of my predecessors as chairman of Cable & Wireless was not only in the Cabinet but was Deputy Prime Minister — in a Labour Government. If working in a department should be a bar for five years, as Gordon Brown now maintains, then, since the DTI in my time concerned itself with everything from the City to manufacturing industry, I should have to be unemployed or become a farmer!

But do we actually want full-time professional politicians who have done little but practise politics? Surely we should encourage more knowledge about how government works in the wider world, not less. I am one of a very few who have moved from businesses to the Civil Service, then into the Cabinet and now back again to business. I know just how little business knows of government; and even more worrying, I know just how little most civil servants and ministers know about business. Yet it is business that creates the wealth of the nation.

The biggest insult is the implication that moving from one to the other is somehow corrupt, a job given as a reward for past favours. Yet gratitude hardly exists in political life. Then if not gratitude, goes the implication, officials and ministers must be so venal that they sell inside knowledge to equally corrupt companies. The detailed knowledge that any official or minister may have on leaving his post becomes obsolete after a few weeks. What endures is the years of experience of the ways of government. That is of real value — but of value to the efficient working of government just as much as to industry.

Other countries do it differently. The Japanese call it "the descent from heaven" when their senior civil servants retire, waiting an interval before becoming senior advisers to business houses. The French Civil Service makes sure its best and brightest go into industry after the age of 40, to the advantage of both government and industry. Washington is full of people in government for a few years before returning to academia or the private sector. Indeed, I got the idea of doing the same thing myself from American friends.

For many years, the Diamond committee has been regulating the time senior civil servants must wait after retiring before taking on any job. When I retired, my Permanent Secretary retired with me. He went to the Diamond committee and three months later had three directorships. I waited 15 months, but my joining Cable & Wireless was accompanied by howls of rather synthetic outrage. I only wished that I could have gone to the same committee, for I suspect that I would have been cleared far sooner.

Many of my former colleagues retired in their fifties, and an increasing number of civil servants are taking early retirement as well. Are we to be deprived of all this talent and experience? Some, in both worlds, will wish to retire completely, but many want to work on. We do not have so much human capital that we can afford to waste any.

The Nolan committee must look into the interchange between government and business, for civil servants as well as ministers. After the rather cynical campaign over the past few years, there is now public disquiet where none should exist. The committee must devise a way to make it easier, not harder, for people to move between the increasingly polarised worlds of Whitehall or Westminster and commerce or industry. The process must be taken out of the political bear-garden. If this campaign carries on for much longer, we will find few people from industry willing ever to spend time in government. Government will then be much the poorer. In the long run, so will we all.

The author was Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, 1987-89.

Acting up

WE CAN EXPECT high drama when the Princess of Wales takes to the High Court next week in the battle over photographs of her exercising in a west London gym. The gym's owner, Bryce Taylor, who is being sued by the Princess, is taking acting lessons in preparation for the court case.

Along with his lawyer, Razi Mireskandari, he has booked appointments with former Royal Shakespeare Company actress Leone Mellinger, who is currently appearing in *Women of Troy* at the National Theatre.

Taylor is planning to visit Mellinger for lessons at the weekend, before the court case starts on Monday. His lawyer has already made a promising start. "He approached me," explains the actress. "I am teaching him communication techniques. He will need these when he goes in front of the cameras." The course involves relaxation and breathing lessons, self-analysis using video cameras, and confidence-boosting sessions.

The Princess has also, apparently, been specially coached, and would be the first member of the royal family to appear in the witness box since 1891. But she is said to have flung down the gauntlet: "I feel very strongly about this," she was reported as saying yesterday. "I am prepared to fight it to the last fence."

The world's media are on tenterhooks, says Taylor's publicist Max Clifford. "It's the nearest Britain has got to the O.J. Simpson trial. I'll have to hire the Albert Hall for media briefings at this rate."

Leone Mellinger: adviser

● *Peterborough's* Evening Telegraph *declared its "spot the ball competition" void this weekend and is refunding all entrants — because the ball was left in the picture.*

Booting up

MICK JAGGER has become an unlikely champion of the "green welly" brigade. The Rolling Stones, who are currently in Rio de Janeiro on tour, have placed a bulk order for Hunter Wellington boots with their manufacturer, Gates Rubber, in Dumfries.

Two separate orders came in: the first for 40 pairs of the company's Hunter blue boots, the second for a further six pairs customised with Rolling Stones embossed studs to be attached to buckles on the boots. "We're not sure what they want them for," says a company spokeswoman. "But I do hope they'll be wearing them on stage."

Other means

THERE is an alternative after all. Lady Thatcher's childhood home is to be turned into an alternative health clinic. The counter behind which Margaret Hilda Roberts helped to weigh out prescriptions as a gawky teenager will remain as an attractive feature, along with a mural of 10 Downing Street as a backdrop.

The clinic is being set up by New Zealander Simon King, and is the latest incarnation of Alderman Alf Roberts's corner shop. Until recently it was the Premier Restaurant, featuring a Margaret Thatcher menu with Downing Street soup. That closed because of a lack of custom.

Next month, however, there will be acupuncture, nutrition and other alternative therapies. "The history of the shop did have a certain attraction," said King, a former chiropractic lecturer. "The clinic reception will be in the Thatchers' old front room."

● *Optimistic that England would square the Ashes series in the Perth Test, the MCC introduced a new service for members. A large TV screen was erected at Lord's, and full English breakfast was served. After yesterday's humiliating England batting collapse there will be leftover sausages this morning.*

Table talk

LONDON is to have a new political nerve centre, at the Piccadilly Circus end of Regent Street. Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Ken Follett, bottle-poppers and party-givers to the Conservative and Labour parties respectively, have both become backers of chef Bruno Loubet's long-awaited new restaurant, L'Odeon.

Their £750 subscriptions entitle them to £1,000-worth of credit when the restaurant opens in early summer. Among 200 others in the "Founders' Club" are John Sessions and Cameron Mackintosh, but Loubet is looking for more. I understand Liberal Democrats are in particularly short supply.

Viler viola

AUDIENCES at the Royal Festival Hall should brace themselves for the London Philharmonic's return to base after its tour of South Africa. A multi-coloured instrument, more suited to New Age travellers and Rastafarians than to leading orchestra players, could be tucked under a viola player's chin.

The conductor Franz Welser-Most was presented with the luminous stringed thing at the start of the tour yesterday by its sponsor Nedbank. It was decorated by an art student in singing African colours, as a symbol of the fusion of European and African cultures. A member of the Soweto String Quartet delivered a nifty rendition of South Africa's two national anthems, whereupon a member of the orchestra pomptly scraped out *God Save the Queen*.

P·H·S

HUNT FOR PRINCIPLES

An agenda for Lord Nolan's committee today

David Hunt's appearance before the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life today will be one of the most important moments in its hearings. As Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Mr Hunt is responsible for the organisation and reform of government. He, more than any other witness before the investigation, must persuade Lord Nolan that ministers are in command of the various ethical questions which led to John Major setting up the committee. There are signs that he may find it difficult to do so.

Yesterday, for example, Mr Hunt rejected as "outrageous" criticism of former ministers who have gone into sensitive jobs in the private sector. At present, it is left to the discretion of those leaving office to decide what appointments to take up, and when; senior civil servants, in contrast, must seek official approval for all such appointments within two years of leaving the public sector. It appears that the committee's members are moving towards the recommendation of a similar system for ministers. Mr Hunt must explain why he supports the existing rules, which distinguish so clearly between senior politicians and their high-ranking officials.

The committee will also be interested in the Government's views on "quangos" which Mr Hunt will submit today. Many of the charges that have been levelled against the "quango state" are lazy or ill-informed. Local government is not the only means of making public services more accountable. Indeed, the term "quango" is used far too vaguely in political rhetoric to apply to any body which does not report to its town hall, ranging from NHS trusts to the governing bodies of grant-maintained schools. The Government must play its part in making information about quangos available and explaining their function in reform of the public services. Mr Hunt's recommendations are a reasonable start. He proposes that advertising should be used more often, especially for those posts which are salaried. Access to information on public appointments should now be easier; more will be published on job descriptions and the reasons for appointments. The process by which 42,000 Britons are selected for positions of authority will become a little more transparent.

Mr Hunt's argument seems to be that openness is a more efficient guarantee of fairness than independent scrutiny of appointments. That may be so. Such decisions are already subject to examination by parliamentary select committees; ministers are accountable to the Commons for their choice of appointees. To make the process more complex would be immensely time-consuming, given that 10,000 such appointments are made a year. It is important, therefore, that greater openness make such a reform unnecessary.

In its final report, the Nolan committee should urge the Government to be more radical in its proposals. Ministers seem to have ruled out the publication of a "Who's Who" register of appointees: in fact such a book would be a compelling symbol of the new transparency — far more so than an electronic database. In general, appointees should also be expected to publish details of their party political affiliations. Such a requirement would no more invade an appointee's privacy than an electoral candidate's declaration on a ballot paper; it would also address public fears that quangos are being filled with Tory placemen. The Government must not allow the charge that it is setting up a "quangocracy" to stick. Lord Nolan should press Mr Hunt on this point today.

TALKING TURKEY

In the Cyprus stalemate, the EU has leverage to exert

France's diplomatic plan to end the stalemate over Cyprus is as ingenious as it is welcome. Last week at the London meeting between the Turkish Foreign Minister and four of his EU counterparts — and again yesterday in Brussels — Paris proposed that Greece should drop its veto on the Turkish-EU customs union in return for a commitment by the Union to start negotiations on Cypriot accession within six months of next year's inter-governmental conference. This cleverly links two issues of prime importance to the Fifteen: the further integration with Europe of Turkey, and the breaking of the current stalemate in Cyprus.

Since the collapse of Communism, Turkey's importance has grown. As a secular, Islamic country with a democratic constitution, it is a potential role model for the Turkic-speaking Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union which are groping for a new identity. In the Balkans, Turkish statesmanship is vital to any settlement. And in northern Iraq and the wider Middle East, Western pressure on Saddam Hussein and support for moderate Arab governments can only be effective if backed by Ankara.

By contrast, Greece has alienated its friends by its strident nationalism and financial irresponsibility. The imposition by Athens of a unilateral blockade on Macedonia, its disconcerting line on Bosnia and its reluctance to countenance the full extension of EU Mediterranean aid to Turkey have won neither sympathy nor understanding. Its agreement yesterday to lift its cynical veto of a customs union with Turkey ends an absurdity: far from forcing concessions on Cyprus, Greece's obduracy undermined the Cypriot cause it seeks to advance. Britain, because of historic connections, treaty obligations and an extensive military presence in sovereign bases and with United Nations forces, has a special interest in seeing an end to the Cyprus stalemate. The Government's policy should not be influenced either by Turkish obstinacy or Greek petulance. It should be based on international law, including the continued recognition of the Cyprus Government as the only legitimately constituted government on the island.

Progress will be slow. The latest UN peace plan has broken down, largely because of quibbling by Rauf Denktas, along with proposed confidence-building measures. Face-to-face meetings between President Clerides and Mr Denktas are likely to yield little without a new UN framework, and Boutros Boutros Ghali is reluctant to play Sisyphus again. Pressure on Turkey to force concessions from Mr Denktas can do little as long as the Ankara coalition is weak. Cyprus remains an emotional issue and Mr Denktas is able to manipulate Turkish public opinion.

Opening EU talks with Cyprus would bring matters to a head. A treaty could not legally be concluded against the wishes of the Turkish Cypriots, who are likely again to back Mr Denktas in the elections announced yesterday for April. But the start of talks might open new channels. Britain and America must keep up the pressure in the Security Council. And the lure of EU markets might give Turkey more compelling reason to insist on compromise. This is the nub and the beauty of the French plan.

TROPHY OF PEACE

The preservation of great art must come before property rights

Art-lovers will flock to St Petersburg this summer to see a mystery unravelled. A collection of 74 paintings, from Courbet to Picasso, is about to go on display at the Hermitage. These are not only great works: they come mostly from the collection of Otto Krebs, a German businessman, which for 50 years was thought to have been lost in the flames that consumed Hitler's Germany.

The paintings form part of the gigantic Soviet haul of "Trophy Art" whose existence was until recently a state secret. To the south, in Moscow, the Pushkin Museum is about to reveal other hidden glories: several hundred master drawings this year, and in 1996, the Trojan gold which Heinrich Schliemann unearthed and mistakenly dubbed King Priam's Treasure. Both collections disappeared from Berlin in 1945. No one knows how much more there is.

The lawyers have, not surprisingly, beaten the art critics to Russia's door. But, for three main reasons, they should tread softly. The first is that by no means all that the Red Army shipped from Germany had any business there in the first place. Herr Krebs's heirs may have a relatively straightforward case. But Hitler's *Kunstschutz* followed the Wehrmacht across Europe, with explicit orders to seize art for his planned museum in Austria. Private plunderers joined the game. The Pushkin drawings, for example, were "acquired" by Hitler's representative from a Dutch collector, Franz Koenigs, in a forced sale. Other works now in Russian hands were seized by the Nazis from Hungarian Jews who have no heirs: they and their families died in the gas chambers.

Secondly, the Russians themselves lost at least 40,000 priceless treasures. The Nazis not only emptied entire museums: they deliberately destroyed the frescoes at Novgorod, perhaps the greatest masterpiece of Russian art. The fate of the famous Amber Room remains one of the war's greatest unsolved art mysteries.

There has never been a satisfactory answer to wartime looting. Some of the booty Napoleon carried out of Italy was returned, but much was not. The 1907 Hague Convention, to which Germany and Russia are parties, covers only "private property". There is a bilateral treaty of 1990, but Russia argues that this only covers restitution of works looted by individuals, not "requisitioned" property.

The most powerful argument for patience and tact is, in the words of the Hermitage's director, Mikhail Piotrovsky: "Art first, property afterwards." Russia should be encouraged to put the treasure on public display, and to accept help in restoring what damp and lack of funds put at risk. That may mean accepting that in equity, Russia ought to keep — on public display — objects whose ownership is contestable.

A judicious, as opposed to legalistic, settlement of other cases might involve allowing Russia to keep some of the best works, helping it to trace its own missing artworks, and help to restore its great museums and churches. The world should rejoice that the aesthetic horrors of totalitarian rule, whether of Hitler's assault on "degenerate" art or Stalin's "socialist realism", have given place to a shared appreciation of a magnificent common heritage.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Judicial abuse of ministers' powers?

From Mr Peter V. Facey

Sir, The separation of powers between the judiciary and the executive is a vital protection for the citizen, and it should be guarded jealously by both sides. Ministers whose actions have been declared unlawful have always, sometimes after appeal, accepted the decision of the court and shown a proper respect for it. Recently, however, several judges have trespassed upon the powers of the executive and failed to show the respect which is due to elected ministers.

Last November Judge Brooks said in Snaresbrook Crown Court: "If a hospital bed is not found . . . within 36 hours I want Virginia Bottomley to appear in this court and explain to me personally why not" (report, November 8, 1994). A bed was eventually found (report, November 19).

In Newport Crown Court, Judge Prosser summoned a Welsh Office official and told him: "It is not good enough for the . . . Government to have a policy where people are allowed onto the streets to kill people when, by spending some money, they could find beds for them. Take that back to the Secretary of State!" (report, November 16, 1994).

Last week, in Chichester Crown Court, Judge Thorpe crossed the Rubicon when he issued a witness summons requiring Mrs Bottomley to appear before him next Friday, saying the lack of a psychiatric bed for a person charged with malicious wounding was "quite unacceptable" (report, February 4).

These remarks are intemperate. If Mrs Bottomley has acted unlawfully or unreasonably her conduct can be subjected to judicial review, but crown court judges can neither initiate nor conduct such reviews. It is an abuse of power to use a witness summons to compel a Secretary of State, under threat of contempt of court, to discuss in open court the exigencies of public policy. Judges can no more do this than they can summon the Lord Chancellor to explain why more money is not spent on the courts.

I hope that Mrs Bottomley will decline to appear, and that the Prime Minister will hold urgent talks with the Lord Chancellor to restore that mutual respect of each others' domains that the judiciary and the executive have shown in the past.

Yours faithfully,
P. V. FACEY,
134 Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford, Kent.
January 6.

'Social Trends'

From Mr Alex MacGillivray

Sir, David Walker is excessively tender-hearted in his discussion of the latest edition of *Social Trends* (January 26). The influential annual report from the Central Statistical Office has been responsible for "turning around" public and business confidence in official statistics: civil servants do not censor or massage figures, but are "coy". The figures can be read as "good or bad news" according to political persuasion, and "Come recession, come shine, British are all better off".

Am I reading the same book? Cleaners last year earned less on average than they did in 1991, and are a measly £1 a week "better off" than they were in 1986. And they probably work longer hours. Those Britons with jobs work the longest hours in Europe: 43.4 hours a week in 1992 and 66 minutes longer than they did in 1983.

David Walker simply didn't see the indicators of declining quality of life in *Social Trends*. But research institutes like this one are working to describe key trends in welfare and equity, rather than average material wealth. These are the subjects which government publications — "censored" or not — make a consistent and hard-hearted habit of omitting.

Yours etc,
ALEX MacGILLIVRAY,
New Economics Foundation,
1st Floor,
Vine Court,
112-116 Whitechapel Road, E1.
February 2.

Writer's decamp

From Mr Bernard Cornwell

Sir, I am grateful for Peter Millar's notice of my book, *Battle Flag* (Weekend, January 28), but feel aggrieved at his suggestion that I left Britain to take advantage of the "hugely lucrative American market". I had not even begun to write when I emigrated, an accident that occurred when I married an American who possessed, and still possesses, an inconveniently large family of which she was and remains inexplicably fond.

I was not similarly cumbered and thus, if love's course was to run smooth, I needed to live in the USA. I was refused a "green card", so I attempted an occupation for which the permission of the American Government was not needed; I began to write.

My true motive, as you see, may be no more admirable than that ascribed to me by Mr Millar, but I would be grateful if the record could be corrected.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD CORNWELL,
325 Old Comers Road,
Chatham, Massachussetts.
January 31.

Business letters, page 27

Brussels as Europe's motive force

From Mr Martin Howe

Sir, In his highly political letter (January 31), Mr Geoffrey Martin, head of the European Commission's representation in the UK, writes: "The European Commission does not possess a vote in any European Union decision and there is no intention that it should have one."

The reality is different. Successive European treaties have granted to the Commission, *inter alia*, a monopoly right to draft and initiate all legislation within the competence of the European Community. The Commission thereafter has powers to influence and sometimes dictate the form of any amendments to that legislation, and even as a last resort to veto amendments by threatening withdrawal of its proposal.

Far from being a mere servant of the member states, the president of the Commission participates in meetings of heads of government as a member with them of the European Council (Maastricht Treaty, article D). Furthermore, the Commission has the right to propose amendments to the very treaties which define its powers, and in practice plays a major role in formulating and drafting those amendments.

As long ago as 1970, the then Commission president told the European Parliament: "The Commission is, at one and the same time, the guardian of the Treaties and the motive force of integration." Since then, the Commission's powers and ambitions have grown further, with M Delors's assertion that Brussels, and therefore the Commission, will be the source of 80 per cent of legislation affecting the nations of Europe.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN HOWE,
8 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

From Mr Bryan Smalley

Sir, I would like to see the evidence which Mr P. J. Riddell relies on in his letter today which enables him to state that "Other parts of the world look to Europe as a model of how countries can co-operate". I would have thought that the mismanagement by the EU of the Yugoslav situation would disprove the point, and that is only one example.

The British Commonwealth is a better example. The difference between the two, which makes the Commonwealth more acceptable, is that all its activities are voluntary, whereas the EU is run by unelected commissioners who issue directives telling us how to live our lives.

Yours etc,
BRYAN SMALLEY,
The Old Nurseries, Widford Road,
Much Hadham, Hertfordshire.
February 2.

Switzerland as economic role model

From the Reverend R. H. Dengate

Sir, William Rees-Mogg suggests that one reason for the success of the Swiss economy is their banking system which is "designed to protect both the banks and their customers with a minimum of interference" ("Choosing a Swiss role", February 2). Millions of people around the world have good cause to believe that this confidentiality has been carried to the extreme where it has become one of the greatest evils of the 20th century.

What has happened to the Marcos millions, for example? How has Idi Amin continued to live in affluence? What proportion of the assets of the people of Zaire are helping to swell Swiss coffers?

Providing safe haven for corruptly obtained funds is bad enough. Ignoring the damage done to the ordinary people of destitute nations is even worse. Failing to return those funds to the rightful owners when it has become obvious that this should be done is unforgivable. Who are the real beneficiaries of this "confidentiality"?

Are we, and all other rich economies, so involved in this despicable practice ourselves that we are unwilling to do anything about it?

Yours faithfully,
R. H. DENGATE,
The Rectory,
Sandhurst, Cranbrook, Kent.

From Mr Torix P. Bennett

Sir, I was pleased to read Lord Rees-Mogg's article on Switzerland's continued success whilst being outside the Common Market.

However, he did not mention that the Swiss politicians advocated "going in" whilst the populace in their referendum in 1992 voted "No" to entry and that the politicians are now, in general, delighted.

Yours faithfully,
TORIX BENNETT,
Deepwood,
Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire.
February 2.

From Dr Helen C. Grant

Sir, The "wealthiest country in Europe" with a "strongly capitalist tradition" — in other words Switzerland, as Lord Rees-Mogg reminds us — has taken the trouble not to privatise its railways. Indeed in that money-driven country the railway is one of the few enterprises which is not privately owned.

You can either run the railway as a service to the community or you can run it to make a profit, but you cannot do both.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. GRANT,
10 Antrim Grove, NW3.
February 2.

Royalty and tourism

From Mr Anthony Holden

Sir, You report a dispute among tour operators as to whether, in view of the monarchy's recent difficulties, the advent of a British republic would damage tourism ("Royalty: still a draw?", February 2).

In mid-1993, in a poll conducted by the US magazine *Condé Nast Traveler* for my book *The Tarnished Crown*, 93.5 per cent of American tourists said that it "would not affect their decision to visit Britain" if the monarchy were abolished. Over three quarters, 77.2 per cent, said that their interest in the Royal Family "does not at all influence" their decision to come here. Almost nine out of ten, 87.7 per cent, said they would still go to see Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle if they were occupied by an elected president rather than a hereditary monarch.

And that was before things got worse. If tourism continues to be the last, best defence for the monarchy, thus allowing foreigners to decide our constitutional arrangements, then the institution is in parlous shape indeed. Versailles, after all, hasn't done too badly since 1789 . . .

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY HOLDEN,
5 Ravenscourt Square, W6.
February 2.

From Mr Henry von Blumenthal

Sir, Anyone who doubts that royalty is still a draw for tourists need look no further than the pages of the Sunday newspapers. There the German tourist board shamelessly exploits the legacy of fairytale castles built by King Ludwig of Bavaria. Its advertisement includes a picture of the King.

The irony is that the "democratic" German constitution forbids the many German monarchists to campaign for restoration of the former ruling families, even though a Bavarian radio phone-in poll three years ago resulted in almost 70 per cent "voting" in favour of such a move.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY von BLUMENTHAL,
The Monarchist League,
BM "Monarchist",
London WC1N 3XX.

Tate's treasures

From the Director of the Tate Gallery

Sir, On December 27 you published a letter from Mrs Jenny Pery, later supported by one from Sir Christopher Pinsent (January 16), complaining that the Tate had refused loans to three retrospective exhibitions that she was organising. The artists in question were John Dodgson, Claude Rogers and Solomon J. Solomon.

In the case of Claude Rogers I am completely baffled by Mrs Pery's complaint. We lent all four of the works she requested, both to the first venue in London and the subsequent tour to two regional venues.

The case of the Solomon, where the loan was refused because the work was not fit to show, is certainly unfortunate. However, it would have needed an estimated three months' work to make it exhibitable and we could not justify giving priority to this relatively minor work.

The Dodgson was refused because the security arrangements of the proposed gallery were inadequate, despite Mrs Pery's assertion to the contrary.

"None of the paintings requested has ever been on show on the walls of the Tate", asserts Mrs Pery. This is simply not true. Since we began to keep records in 1973 only the Solomon and one of the paintings by Rogers have not been shown in the Tate. The Dodgson was shown in 1976 and the other three by Rogers on a total of 11 separate occasions since 1975. The Dodgson and all the Rogerses have also been lent elsewhere on a number of occasions.

"Is the public never to see the more minor paintings which lurk in [the Tate's] storerooms?", Mrs Pery asks. I would point out to her, and to Sir Christopher, that since 1990 the Tate has changed its displays annually, precisely in order to bring on view works which had previously spent long periods in store. Some rooms are changed twice a year; in others we put on three single-artist displays in the course of the year.

So the number of artists who, as Mrs Pery put it, "blush unseen" is steadily diminishing.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS SEROTA,
Director,
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1.
January 27.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Visa obstacles to trade with Russia

From Mr Alan Baker

Sir, It is of some comfort to read (letter, January 25) of the obstructionist and humiliating procedures which prevented an Indian art connoisseur entering Britain. This derives only from knowing that the British consular service's attitude to granting visas is not confined to post-communist Russia.

Our publication and company exist to promote trade with, or investment in, the emerging economies of the post-communist countries. We talk to companies involved in trade, tourism and investment in Russia, as well as inviting Russian businessmen and women for study visits, exchanges and business discussions in the UK.

Our frustrating daily experience is of tortuous unreasonableness on the part of the British Embassy in Moscow. Last weekend at the eleventh hour I had to cancel a week's business programme for the visiting managing director of a Russian company, a subsidiary of one of Russia's leading energy companies, with offices in London. After three days of interviews at the British Embassy, some lasting up to three hours, his visa was refused. On Monday, when he was already supposed to be engaged in talks in London, it was finally issued. This story is not exceptional.

Of course, the consular service has to try and prevent criminal elements from entering Britain, but the British Government has a policy, proclaimed by the Prime Minister on many occasions, of aiding the development of business in the post-communist world. Yet when a Russian businessman tries to come to Britain not for aid, not funded by any taxpayer but to do business, he is treated humiliatingly.

Perhaps the Department of Trade and Industry could champion a streamlined procedure for bona fide business visa applications. If not, much of its good work and the efforts of British exporters and investors in Russia could be wasted.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BAKER (Managing Editor),
New Markets Monthly,
Paper Mews Place,
290 High Street, Dorking, Surrey.
February 1.

BBC radio

From Mr Christopher S. Henry

Sir, I read with interest the article by the Managing Director, BBC Radio ("No radio identity crisis", January 25).

Liz Forgan says, with some pride, that she "stopped Radio 2 bending over backwards to attract the older Radio 1 audience". She further claims she is allowing Radio 2 to "concentrate on its natural 50-plus audience" and that Radio 1 needs to be "regaining credibility with younger listeners".

Could she explain, please, how BBC Radio proposes to provide a service to the large number of "in-betweeners" — of whom I am but one?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER S. HENRY,
41 Hampton Lane,
Winchester, Hampshire.

Out of line

From Mr Steve Ward

Sir, I am disappointed to see that even *The Times*'s leader columns are succumbing to the relentless invasion of American English. In your leader of January 28, on the National Lottery, you state that "stores which sell tickets for the draw have lottery-only lines on a Saturday".

Do you mean: "*Shops* . . . have lottery-only *queues*"?

Yours faithfully,
STEVE WARD,
6 Yew Tree Close,
Bishop Sutton, Bristol, Avon.
January 28.

Bridging the gap

From Mr John Fingleton

Sir, I very much hope that the Prime Minister's otherwise welcome proposals for the liberalising of Sunday afternoon licensing laws (report, January 25) will not have too detrimental an effect on another activity reputed to be close to his heart — Sunday social (as opposed to professional or league) cricket.

I always understood that one of the reasons for the huge success of that type of game was that it was the best way that two lots of 11 chums could spend the afternoon together between the pub closing and reopening. What excuse will they have now?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FINGLETON,
19 York House,
Upper Montagu Street, W1.
January 25.

Shooting wild

From Mr Clive Hicks

Sir, Contrary to being "unfair" to pheasants and partridges (Diary, February 3), I reckon they would be as safe as houses if Lord Cowdray were to hunt them with "his rifle".

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE HICKS,
Quarry Farm House,
Hornton, Banbury, Oxfordshire.
February 3.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 6: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon chaired an Industry and Commerce Group Meeting at Buckingham Palace.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 6: The Duke of Kent this evening received Sir Nigel Broomfield, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

Birthdays today

Mrs G.T. Banks, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 62; Lord Bellwin, 72; Mr P.W. Bennett, former chairman, W.H. Smith and Son Holdings, 78; Mrs Caroline Bingham, writer, 57; Lord Bottomley, 88; Miss Dora Bryan, actress, 71; the Earl of Cork and Orrery, 85; Mr Gerald Davies, rugby player, 50; the Earl of Harewood, 72; Mr Tony Howitt, management consultant, 75; Mr Ian Jack, Editor, *The Independent on Sunday*, 50; Mr Michael James, writer and nuclear energy adviser, 54; the Hon Peter Jay, writer and broadcaster, 58; Lord Keith of Kinkel, 73; Mr D.R. Langslow, chief executive, English Nature, 50; Sir John Leahy, diplomat, 67; Sir George Moseley, civil servant, 70; Sir Philip Myers, former Chief Constable, North Wales Police, 64; Mr David Park, author, 42; Earl St Aldwyn, 45; Mr R.W. Watson, former Director-General, NFU, 69.

Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Kingfisher, is 53 today

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit The Queen's Flight at RAF Benson at 2.15.

The Princess Royal, as Chancellor of London University, will attend the opening ceremony of the scientific open day at the Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, WC1, at 2.00; and, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a dinner for prospective donors at 9 Hays Mews, W1, at 6.45.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of the Britain-Nepal Society, will attend the annual dinner at St Columba's Church of Scotland Hall, Pont Street, at 7.15.

The Duke of Kent will visit the Central Criminal Court at the Old Bailey at 12.40.

The Duchess of Kent will open Rowley Regis Hospital, Moor Lane, Warley, at 11.45; as Patron of Compton Hospice, will open the Bradbury Day Care Centre, Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, at 1.30; and, as Patron of Unicef UK, will attend a private viewing of paintings by David Lewis at the Mall Galleries, SW1, at 6.50.

Dinners

Royal Society of St George
Sir Colin Cole, President of the Royal Society of St George, presided at a dinner held last night at the Naval and Military Club to mark the 43rd anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne. Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps and President of the Westminster branch of the society, and Mrs Mavis Linton, chairman of the society, also spoke.

Banker's Club
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the sheriffs, was present at the annual dinner of the Banker's Club held last night at Guildhall. The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the principal speaker. Sir Robin Ibbs, president, was in the chair.

Athenaeum
Dr Tom Stuttaford was in the chair at a talk dinner held last night at Athenaeum. Professor Richard Gregory was the principal speaker.

Two Cities Dining Club
Mr Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for National Heritage, was the guest speaker at a dinner of the Two Cities Dining Club held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel, Westminster. Mr Kenneth Dibben presided.

Service dinner

The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons)
The Regimental Dinner of The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons) was held on Friday, February 3, at the Balmoral Hotel, Edinburgh. General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie was in the chair.

Luncheons

Newspaper Conference
Mr Howard Davies, Director-General of the CBI, was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual luncheon of the Newspaper Conference held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr Frederick Hackworth, chairman of the conference, presided.

Rotary Club of London
Mr John Parker, President of the Rotary Club of London, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the London Marriott Hotel. General Paul Rader, Salvation Army, was the speaker.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Lord Montagu of Beaulieu was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr T.S. Lansley presided.

Prince to be patron

The Prince of Wales has agreed to be British Patron of UN50, the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

Ashmore, a Limontsell bull, receives last-minute beauty treatment before the Perth bull sales which began yesterday

Latest wills

Lord **Bonham-Carter**, of London W11, Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman in the House of Lords, left estate valued at £168,434.

The Hon Luke **Asquith**, of London SE22, former banker with Kleinwort Benson, left estate valued at £150,462.

Mr George Edgar **Sowton**, of Sanderstead, Surrey, cardiologist, left estate valued at £2,278,996.

Major-General Reginald John **Gray**, of London SW20, former Director of Medical Services, UK Land Forces, left estate valued at £259,831.

Sir James **Taylor** of Farnham, Surrey, an explosives expert, a former director of ICI, and deputy chairman of the Royal Ordnance Factories, left estate valued at £1,278,007 net.

Mr John Edward **Liley**, of Broad Campden, Gloucs, farmer, former non-executive director of the Grand Metropolitan Group, left estate in the UK valued at £3,759,678 net.

Mrs Ruth Pattinson **Aguiter** of Sheringham, Norfolk, left estate valued at £6,252,861 net.

She left £8,000 each to Norma Winterbourne and William S. Atkins, if still in her employ at her death; £20,000 and some effects to other personal legatees, and the residue equally between the RSPCA, Leukaemia Research Fund and Age Concern.

Mr Douglas David **Seligman**, of Crawley, Hants, left estate valued at £3,871,017 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Mr Douglas William **Brown**, of Kingston upon Thames, £1,576,088

Eileen Evelyn **Watts**, of London SW6, £919,963

Beryl Graham Cameron **Cann** of London NW3, £3,573,635

Mrs Nester Mabel Elizabeth **Cousins**, of Dedham, Essex, £1,204,521

Geraldine **Cuddon**, of Sidmouth, Devon, £911,385

Mrs Elsie **Daniel**, of Great Dunmow, Essex, £1,079,611

Mrs Phillipa Mary Scofield **Jeffery**, of Towcester, Northants, £1,789,333

Miss Betty Patricia Eileen Brome **Kenrick**, of Eastbourne, East Sussex, £1,052,540

Tourist venues enjoy record year as Britons spend again

By Marianne Curphey

BRITAIN'S biggest tourist attractions reported record visitor numbers last year and expect another good year in 1995.

Despite the disruption of rail strikes and fine summer weather which lured Britons to the beach, admissions at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London were up by 34 per cent, and at Blackpool Pleasure Beach by 16 per cent last year.

According to a report from the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions, the 24 top attractions had more than 80 million visitors between them — an average 5 per cent increase.

The association says new investment and marketing is beginning to pay off. However, its chairman John Lee, a former Tourism Minister, said that without more government funding British tourism would slip behind the rest of the world in the battle for overseas visitors.

He said: "Tourism is one of the world's fastest growing and most competitive markets and governments in other countries are going all out to encourage their tourist industry, lowering VAT and setting aside even larger promotional budgets."

The top attractions have spent over £100 million building new facilities, upgrading existing ones, and mounting exhibitions. The V&A's three major displays last year — on Fabergé, Pugin and Streetstyle (fashion) — brought in 309,000 extra visitors, increasing attendances to 1.4 million.

Kew Gardens invested in an advertising campaign for the first time, emphasising the peace and tranquillity it offered. Attendances, which had fallen because of the recession and after an increase in admission charges in 1989, rose in 1994 to 980,800, up over 5 per cent on 1993. Tourist numbers at the Tower of London, where the new Jewel House opened before the peak season, are expected to have increased by 8 per cent last year to reach 2.48 million.

The Tussauds Group yesterday released its 1994 figures showing visitors to Madame Tussaud's and the London Planetarium rose by 7.4 per cent to 2.6 million. The group spent £21 million redeveloping the waxworks and is devoting a further £42 million to the London Planetarium, due to reopen in the spring. The group also owns Blackpool Pleasure Beach, where visitors rose by one million to 7.75 million. A spokesman said the building of a £12 million roller coaster had been "the best boost for tourism in 100 years".

Mr Lee said the shop at Buckingham Palace had done well and London Zoo's fortunes were "at long last starting to turn the corner" after a new marketing campaign.

He added: "We had marvellous weather during the peak summer months which led people to seek free outdoor entertainment in the countryside or on the beach.

"The record figures achieved by many members show that purses and wallets are being opened again."

ADRIAN BROOKS

The new roller coaster at Blackpool Pleasure Beach helped to boost visitors to 7.7 million last year

Appointments in the Church

The Rev Barrie Gauge, Director of Parish Development (Chester): now *also* an Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral.
The Rev David Good, Curate, Pontesbury: to be Priest-in-charge, St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors; All Saints, Neenton; Burwarton; St Peter and St Paul, Cleobury North; St Michael and All Angels, Aston Botterell; Holy Trinity, Wheathill; Loughton (Hereford).
The Rev Bruce Harry, formerly Assistant Curate (NSM), St Mary, Eastham: now Assistant Curate (part-time), St James and Emmanuel, New Brighton (Chester).
The Rev Andrew Holford, Assistant Curate, St Benedict's, Northampton: to be Vicar, Christ the Carpenter, Dogsthorpe, Peterborough (Peterborough).
The Rev David Howard, Vicar, St Bartholomew's, Binley, Coventry: to be *also* Area Dean of Coventry East (Coventry).
The Rev Judith Hunt, Assistant Curate, Heswall: to be Priest-in-charge, St Edith, Shocklach and St Mary, Tilston (Chester).
The Rev Timothy Kaye, Rector, St Michael's, Stone and St Saviour's, Aston (Lichfield): to be Vicar, All Saints, South Kirkby (Wakefield).
The Rev Martin Lowles, Vicar, St Paul's, East Ham (Chelmsford): to be Team Rector, North Huddersfield Team Parish (Wakefield).
The Rev Eileen Lloyd, Curate, Hereford South Wye Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary, Bucknell; St Mary, Chapel Lawn; St Mary, Llanfair Waterdine; St Michael, Stowe (Hereford).
The Rev John Maskell, Station Chaplain, RAF Wyton, Huntingdon: to be Priest-in-charge, united benefice of Ollerton w Boughton (Southwell).
The Rev Glenys Mills, Curate, Christ Church w Emmanuel, Clifton (Bristol): to be Priest-in-charge, Great and Little Abington and Hildersham, and Chaplain of the Arthur Rank Hospice, Cambridge (Ely).

Senior Forces appointments

Admiral Sir Jock Slater to be Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord in July 1995, succeeding Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst.
Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Boyce to be Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command, in the rank of admiral, in May 1995, succeeding Admiral Sir Michael Layard.
Air Marshal Sir John Willis to be Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, in April 1995, succeeding Admiral Sir Jock Slater.

Memorial service

Mr Richard Langhorn
A memorial service for Mr Richard Langhorn, rugby player, was held yesterday at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Canon James Pannett officiated and Miss Georgina Bell and Miss Louisa York read the intercessions. Mr Stephen Langhorn, father, and Mr David Satchell, of Harlow Butler Ueda, paid tribute. Among others present were:

Mrs Langhorn (mother), Miss Vanessa Langhorn (sister) and other members of the family; Mr David Brooks (president, Harlequin Football Club) with other club members; members of Harlow Butler Ueda staff and many other friends and colleagues.

Lady Hogg

The life barony conferred upon Mrs Sarah Elizabeth Mary Hogg has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Hogg, of Kettlethorpe in the County of Lincolnshire.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.J. Alexander and Miss H.V. Macleod
The engagement is announced between Philip John, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Alexander, of Bexleyheath, Kent, and Helen Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roderick MacLeod, of Ingatestone, Essex.

Mr D. Cooke and Miss L.R. Hankinson
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs Brian Cooke, of Little Aston, Staffordshire, and Louise Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hankinson, of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Mr S.F. Lawrence and Dr C. Harvey
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of the late Mr L.W. Lawrence and of Mrs M.E. Lawrence, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and Christine, daughter of Wing Commander and Mrs J.D. Harvey, of Thornton-le-Street, North Yorkshire.

Mr E.M. Griffiths and Miss A. Pead
The engagement is announced between Edward Morgan, youngest son of Mrs Sarah Griffiths and the late Mr G.M. Griffiths, and Anya, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs B.H. Pead, both of Dyffryn Ardudwy, North Wales.

Mr N.R. Moody and Miss N.J. Ball
The engagement is announced between Neil, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Moody, of Harrietsham, Kent, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Ball, of Ashengrove, Isle of Wight.

Marriages

Sir Michael Turner and Mrs I. Fear
The marriage took place in London, on February 4, between Michael Turner and Ingrid Fear.

Mr R.M. Ayre-Smith and the Hon Rebecca Mackay
The marriage took place on January 28, 1995, at St Peter's Church, Watson's Bay, Sydney, Australia, of Mark, only son of Dr and Mrs Robert Ayre-Smith, of Sydney, and Rebecca, youngest daughter of Lord Tanlaw, of London, and Mrs Edmund Capon, of Sydney.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Thomas More, humanist and statesman, Chancellor 1529-32, London, 1478; Henry Fuseli, painter and writer, Zurich, 1741; Charles Dickens, novelist, Portsmouth, 1812; Sir William Huggins, astronomer, London, 1824; Sir James Murray, philologist, Denholm, Borders, 1837; Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, Vienna, 1870; Sinclair Lewis, novelist, Nobel laureate 1930, Sauk Centre, Minnesota, 1885.

DEATHS: James Stewart, 3rd Earl of Moray, murdered at Deonibristle, Fife, 1592; William Boyce, organist and composer, London, 1779; Ann Radcliffe, novelist, London, 1823; Henry Neele, poet, committed suicide in London, 1828; Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, novelist, Dublin, 1873; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Paris, 1894; Daniel François Malan, Prime Minister of South Africa 1948-54, Stellenbosch, Cape Colony, 1959.

William Lloyd smashed the 1st century Portland vase at the British Museum, 1845.
185 people died when *HMS Orpheus* was wrecked off the coast of New Zealand, 1863.
The main group of the Dead Sea Scrolls was discovered, 1947.
Grenada gained independence, 1974.

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me, scatters. Matthew 12 : 30 (REB)

BIRTHS

AUER - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Jane (née Digby) and Christoph, a son, Hugo Henry Berkeley, a brother for Charles.

BISMARCK - On February 4th 1995, to Leopold and Debonnaire, a son. Brother to Nikolai, Tassilo and Caspar.

BOULTON - On 2nd February 1995 to Ros and Tim, at St Mary's, Portsmouth, two sons, Max Adam Thomas and Zachary Oscar Michael (Max and Zach).

BULL - On February 4th at Kings College Hospital, London to Anne (née Inglis) and Stephen, a daughter, Victoria, a sister for Thomas.

BUTCHER - On Saturday 4th February 1995, to Lucinda (née Allison) and John, a daughter, Rebecca Pauline.

CHAPMAN - On February 1st at The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Eileen (née Parfitt) and Steven, a son, Kieron William Charles.

COLFER - On 4th February, in Hong Kong, to Yoko (née Hatori), wife of Nicholas Colfer, a daughter, Sophie Anne.

DE MARDI - To Lucy (née Dexter) and Maurizio, a son, Giovanni, born 6th February, a brother for Elisa.

FLORES - On February 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Valeria and Augusto, a wonderful and healthy son, Nicolas, a grandson for Monica; Augusto, Cecilia and Juan Manuel.

GERRETSEN - On February 2nd 1995, in Amsterdam, to Nicola (née Theobald) and Philip, a daughter, Hannah Eleonoor, a sister for Isabelle.

GODWIN - On January 31st, to Deborah (née McDonald) and Christopher, a second beautiful daughter, Rebecca Louise, a sister for Natasha.

GORDON LENNOX - On February 3rd, to Kate and Edward, a daughter, Laura Clare, a sister for Alexander and Rosie.

GRIFFITH - On February 2nd at The Portland Hospital, Wyatt Peter 7lbs 14oz to Michelle and Harry and brother Eric.

HARRIS - On 2nd February 1995, to Claire and Gary, a beautiful daughter, Eleanor Beatrix.

HOARE - On Saturday 4th February, to Virginia (née Ritchie) and Tim, a son, a brother for Kate.

HOWELL - On 4th February, to Claire (née Ashworth) and Rupert, a son, Dominic James Spencer, a brother for Amy.

LYME - On 1st February at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, Devon, to Lisa (née Benfield) and Michael, a lovely daughter, Charlotte Jane.

LYON-SMITH - On 3rd February, to Fiona (née Weir) and George, a son, Thomas Patrick.

MACDONALD-BUCHANAN - On February 2nd, to Sheran and Alastair, a daughter, Rose.

ROWILL - On February 4th, to Annette (née Massen) and Julian, a son, Alastair Robin.

SMITH - On January 24th, to Nicola (née Horsey) and Ian, a son, Giles, a brother for Toby.

SPARKS - On 30th January 1995, to Victoria (née Cantley) and Adrian, a son, James Edward.

TAVELLA - On February 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Aldina (née Vivolo) and Mario, a sweet little girl, Bianca, a sister for Guido.

DEATHS

ARTON - On February 3rd 1995 at her home in Broadway, Worcestershire, Mary Elizabeth aged 92 years. Formerly of Romsley, near Bridgnorth, Shropshire. Wife of the late James Anton, mother of Peter and Elizabeth and the late Jane. Memorial Service at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Droitwich, Worcestershire, on Wednesday February 8th at 2.30pm. Donations in her memory for Ward 5, Birmingham Childrens Hospital.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
0171 782 7272 or fax 0171 782 7827

DEATHS

BARK JONES - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, aged 83 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lois and dearly loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral at St Peters Church, Formby, on Friday 10th February at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if wished and payable to "The Lung Cancer Fund" c/o Dean Bros., Deans Court, 76 Gores Lane, Formby. tel: (0704) 872023.

BRAYDEN - On February 5th, Dom Oliver, Monk of Worth Abbey, aged 91. Funeral 2.30 pm Friday February 10th at Worth Abbey.

BRIMACOMBE - On February 4th 1995 after a long illness at Villa Rosa Nursing Home, Torquay, Winston Brimacombe O.B.E., F.R.S.A. Aged 86. Devoted husband of Marjorie and loving father of Peter, Rodney and Michael. Funeral Service at St Lukes Church, St Lukes Road South, Torquay at 2 pm on Thursday February 9th. Family flowers only. Contact either (07652) 661643 or Torbay & District Funeral Service (0803) 315005.

BROWN - Godfrey (AGK) of Coneyburst, Sussex, formerly Headmaster of Worcester Royal Grammar School, died on 4th February after a short illness. Deeply loved by his four children and their families. Funeral at Worthing Crematorium on Thursday 9th February at 12 noon. No flowers, donations, if desired to Sight Savers International c/o Freeman Bros., 9 North Parade, Horsham, RH12 2BP.

BURNABY-ATKINS - On 4th February peacefully at home, Jenny, wife of Frederick. Funeral private. Thanksgiving service at All Saints Church, Oakley at 12 noon on Friday 17th February.

CLAY - On 3rd February, peacefully after a short illness faced with great courage and cheerfulness, Frederick James Clay C.B.E., of Haywards Heath, Sussex (retired Assistant Paymaster General). Funeral Service on Friday 10th February at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, near Crawley, Sussex at 1 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to St Catherine's Hospice c/o P & S Gallagher, Fraser House, Triangle Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 4HW. tel: (0444) 451166.

COPE - Rosemary Averil (née Ballance), widow of Rev. A.W.G. Cope, on 6th February 1995, very peacefully. Much loved mother of Anne (Cotton), Anthony (dec'd) and Penny (Pulman) and grandmother of James, Timothy, Jonathan, Alice, Christopher, Lucy and Anthony. Funeral on Thursday 9th February 1995 at 10.30 am at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. No flowers please but donations if desired to Franciscan Servants of Jesus and Mary, Postbury St Francis, Crediton, Devon.

DAVIES - Jessie Mitchell Reid, of Goring-on-Thames, widow of John Alban Davies and mother of Beryl, died on 29th January at Wallingford, aged 88. Funeral Service at St Thomas's Church, Goring, at 2 pm on Wednesday 8th February, followed by private cremation. Flowers to J.W. Marchant & Son, 55 Wood Street, Wallingford, Oxon.

DAY - Peacefully at St Margaret's Hospice, Yeovil, on 5th February, Joanna Margaret Day O.St.J. (née Calverley), beloved wife of Gordon and of the late W.A. Gordon Muir of Cardross, loving mother of Malcolm, Sarah, Jane and John, dear sister of Brooke and a much loved grandmother. Funeral Service on Thursday 9th February at 2.15 pm in Cardross Parish Church and thereafter to Cardross Crematorium, to which all friends are invited. Family flowers only please.

DRUMMOND - Peter on February 2nd 1995, in hospital. Requiem Mass at the Sacred Heart, Henley-on-Thames. Friday February 10th at 11.30 am. No flowers.

DUFFUS - Peacefully at home, Beatrice Elizabeth (Betty), widow of Ian. Private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations in her memory for R.N.L.I. c/o J & G Perrott, 15 Dancombe Street, Kingsbridge, S. Devon.

FOSTER - On February 5th peacefully at his home Reginald James in his 85th year. Beloved husband of the late Estelle and much loved uncle and great-uncle. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Tittleshall, Norfolk, on Friday February 10th at 2.30pm. No flowers please, but donations may be made for St Mary's Church at the service or c/o Canler & Son, Highfield Road, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 9DH.

FRAMPTON - On February 5th, peacefully in Mayday Hospital, Croydon, Charles Wilfred Michael aged 72. Beloved husband of Sybil and much loved father of Michael and Mandy and adored of Dooman of Zoë, Nicholas, Sarah and Charles. He spent a happy life working with the Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada and later as Treasurer of the South East Branch of The George Cross Island Association. Funeral on Friday February 10th at St John's Church, Old Coulsdon, Surrey at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for Friends of Mayday Hospital may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.

GEORGE - On February 1st 1995, peacefully in his sleep Leopold Charles d'Epinois aged 13 months. Adored son of Cristina and Andrew. Much loved grandson of Jane and Michael Brodie Cooper and Ray and John George. Funeral at All Saints Church, Little Bookham on Thursday 9th February at 3 pm. Donations if desired to The Foundation for the Study of Infant Death, 35 Belgrave Square, London SW1.

GRAHAM - On 3rd February, Alma, beloved wife of Pat, mother of Mellee and Gina, grandmother of Rory, Uride, Marina, Lucy and Joanna and mother-in-law to Anne and Geoffrey. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at 12 noon on Friday 10th February at St Bartholomew's Chapel, Goring Heath and afterwards at Little Bowden. No flowers. Donations to Goring Heath Charities, Goring Heath, Oxon. RG8 7RS.

HAVENHALS - On 1st February 1995, peacefully after a long illness bravely borne, Jacobus, aged 77, much loved husband, father and grandfather. The cremation has taken place privately.

HILL - John Archibald De Cusse, peacefully on 6th February 1995 at the Convent Nursing Home, Nottingham, loving father of Phillip and Pusie, stepfather of Diana and Julia. Funeral Service at St Leonard's Church, Wollaton, Nottingham, on Friday 10th February at 11.30 am, followed by interment at Beeston Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations for Imperial Cancer Research may be sent c/o A.W. Lynn, Robin Hood Street, Nottingham. tel: (0115) 9608875.

HEEPS - On February 1st, suddenly in Hemel Hempstead General Hospital, Bill C.B.E. aged 65 years. Beloved husband of Jennifer, much loved father of Elaine, Donna and Sarah-Jane and treasured grandfather of Anna and Catriona. Service of Thanksgiving on Friday February 10th at the Church of St John the Baptist, Great Gaddesden, Herts, at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please but donations if wished to the Boys Brigade Challenge Appeal of which Bill was Chairman, or Great Gaddesden Church Restoration Fund or the Old Kirk Bo'ness c/o Malcolm Jones & Metcalfe, 284 High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 1AH. tel: (01442) 864548. There will also be a Service of Thanksgiving at the Old Kirk Bo'ness, West Lothian, on Monday February 13th at 2.30 pm.

HOWELL - Benjamin John (Ben), aged 90, On February 3rd peacefully at home, loving and much loved husband of the late Rosa, father of John and Jennifer, grandfather of Jocelyn, Jonathan, Jeremy, Richard and Ben, great-grandfather of Emily, Alison and Ben. Cremation at South Bristol Crematorium 12 noon Thursday 9th February. Donations if desired to The M.S. Society - Bristol Branch c/o Michael Rowe Funeral Director, Chew Magna, BS18 8SP.

JAMES - Linda (Rosalind Mary, née Scorer) On 1st February 1995, very peacefully at home in Oxted, aged 83. FIRST: widow of the late Dr. Harold Mellows, died on active service in the RAF, on 11th November 1941. SECOND: very loved wife of Dr. Norman James for 44 years. A wonderful mother to Sheila, Toby, Alison, Sylla, Julie, Roderick and Pip; grandmother to eighteen and great-grandmother. Cremation private, followed by thanksgiving service on Friday, 10th February at 12.30 pm at the United Reformed Church, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted. No flowers please. Donations to the NSPCC or Scripture Union c/o Ebbutts, High Street, Limpsfield, Surrey RH8 0DR.

KENYON-FULLER - Lloyd Marker, Major R.A. (Ret'd), on February 4th 1995, in his 87th year, beloved husband of Heather (née Beadon). Funeral Service in St Mary's Church, Wherstead, Barnard Castle, on Thursday February 9th at 2 pm.

NAGEON de LESTANG - Peacefully on February 5th in Durban, South Africa, Danielle Marie-Therese, beloved wife of the late Sir Clement Nageon de Lestang, much loved mother of Marie-Jose, Michelyne, Bernard and Anne-Marie. Funeral Service in Durban on February 11th.

ODESCALCHI - Eleni, on 2nd February 1995, peacefully in her sleep after a long illness. Funeral 9th February at Worcester Crematorium. Family flowers and donations to Marie Curie Nurses.

O'DOWD - On February 4th, peacefully in her sleep at New Cross Hospital, Dr. Sylvia, aged 81 years. A much loved and loving mother, grandmother and friend. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Lower Green, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton, on Monday February 13th at 11.45 am, followed by interment at Danescourt Cemetery. Donations, if desired, to Westcroft School. All enquiries to F. Jennings & Sons, tel: (0902) 352251.

PEPPERCORN - John Julian, aged 89, very proud, lovely father of Cathy, Clare, Delia and Amanda and dear husband of Gill. Funeral at St Mary the Virgin, Great Bedwyn, Wilts., noon Monday February 13th. Thanksgiving Service at St Thomas's Cathedral, Portsmouth, noon Monday February 20th. Enquiries, flowers or donations to T. Free & Sons, The Parade, Marlborough, tel: (06672 512110.

REDDLE - Peacefully at Vectis House Nursing Home, Newport, Isle of Wight, on 5th February, Frederick Craig O.B.E., F.R.C.M., Hon. A.R.C.M. Beloved husband of Helen, much loved father of Elizabeth, Sally and Anne, grandfather of Amanda, Stuart, Kate and Charlotte and dearest brother of John and Betty. Greatly loved - your music will always be with us. Funeral Service at St Mark's Church, Station Road, Wootton Bridge, Isle of Wight, on 14th February at 1pm, followed by cremation at the Isle of Wight Crematorium. Flowers and enquiries to H.V. Taylor & Son Ltd., 46 Green Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

ROBINSON - On February 4th 1995, peacefully, Constance May, aged 96 years, wife of the late Sam, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Robin Hood Crematorium, Solihull, on Monday February 20th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. All enquiries to Thomas Bragg & Sons, (0121) 744-1428.

ROSSITER-SHEPHERD - Stanley James, Writer, Journalist and Drama Critic, died on 1st February, aged 96 years, beloved husband of Ruth and dearly loved father of Valerie. Funeral Service on Wednesday 8th February at 2.45 pm at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, near Crawley, Sussex.

SCANLAN - On 4th February 1995, peacefully at home after a long illness courageously borne, Marina (née Gonzalez Cervantes), adored wife of John and dearly loved mother of Johnny and James. Funeral Service at St James's R.C. Church, Spanish Place, George Street, London W1, at 11 am on Friday 10th February 1995. Family flowers only - donations, if desired, to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, 15/19 British Street, London E3/3. All other enquiries to Messrs. A. Franco & Son Ltd., 45 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NH, tel: (0171) 405-2094.

SOUTHWELL - On February 4th 1995, as the result of a road traffic accident, Henry aged 13 years, precious and darling son of Judy and Richard, treasured and adored brother of Louise, Nick and Camilla and beloved grandson, nephew, cousin and friend. He did not suffer. Private family burial in the morning. Service of celebration of his life at All Saints Church, Witley, on Friday February 10th at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Children's Trust, Tadworth Court, Tadworth, Surrey.

SYME - Peacefully in his sleep on 3rd February 1995, aged 91 years, Archibald Cameron Syme O.B.E., formerly of Strathclyde University and the University of Ife, Nigeria. Beloved husband of May Fairley, loving father of Helen and Jeannie and much loved grandfather of Roderick and Kate. Funeral Service and interment at St Mary's Episcopal Church, Dunblane, on Wednesday 8th February at 11 am to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

WALSH - Conal Gerald beloved son of Joyce and Peter and brother of Matthew, Nicholas and Stephen died peacefully in his sleep on Friday, February 3rd, aged 37. Service at Mortlake Crematorium, 4pm, Friday, February 10th. Lots of flowers or, if desired, donations to Crusaid, 11 Carlerat Street, London SW11H 9DJ. Memorial date to be announced.

WEBSTER - On February 1st 1995, suddenly at home, John Harold Webster (Jack) formerly in the Colonial Service, Tanganyika, greatly loved husband of Mary and father of Gillian and Richard. Beloved grandfather of Anthony, Simon and Luke. Service at St James Church, Kidbrooke SE3, on Monday 13th February 1995 at 1 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers, donations, if desired, to Dr. Barnardos.

WILLIAMSON - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully at King Edward VII Hospital, London, Heather Ruth aged 76. Beloved wife of the late Douglas Williamson of Limassol, Cyprus and much loved sister, sister-in-law, aunt and great-aunt and wonderful friend to so many. Her funeral is on Friday 10th February at 1.45 pm at Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, London W1. Family flowers only to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 212 Evershott Street, NW1. Donations to a hospice or charity of your choice.

WOOD - On February 2nd 1995 after a short illness, George Brian, Captain (retd.), Royal Corps of Signals, aged 70 years. Beloved husband of Joan, dearly loved father of Anthony, Anne, Charles and Caroline and devoted grandfather of Alexander, David, Peter and Daniel. Funeral Service at St Giles, Stoke Poges, at 2.15 pm on Monday 13th February, followed by cremation at Slough Crematorium at 3pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 61 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX.

WYNNE-WILLIAMS - (née Perry), Sylvia Josephine, Cherished by four children and six grandchildren, died peacefully on 3rd February 1995, aged 85. Funeral private. No flowers. Donations, if desired, for the Friends of Arthur Rank House and all enquiries to Harry Williams & Sons, 7 Victoria Park, Cambridge. CB4 3EJ, tel: (0223) 359480.

SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

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OBITUARIES

GODFREY BROWN

Godfrey Brown, Olympic gold and silver medallist and former headmaster of Worcester Royal Grammar School, died on February 4 aged 79. He was born on February 21, 1915.

AFTER a distinguished career in teaching, Godfrey Brown was headmaster of Worcester Royal Grammar School from 1950 to 1978. But he has his place in athletics history as one of the four members of the British team which ran to a marvellous victory in the 4 x 400 metres relay in the highly-charged ethos of the Berlin Olympics of 1936.

The victory was savoured the more as an example of glorious devil-may-care in an atmosphere poisoned by Nazism and the well-nigh professional preparation of German teams, trained to demonstrate once and for all the superiority of Aryan stock. Neither the German four: Hamann, von Stülpnagel, Voigt and Harbig, nor the American quartet: Cagle, Young, O'Brien and Fitch — world record holders for the event and regarded with some justification as favourities — had even considered the palpably slapdash approach of the British.

Indeed, the British quarter-milers: Frederick Wolff, Godfrey Rampling, William Roberts and Brown, starved of training facilities, had little more to sustain them than the notion that "it might just be done".

As Brown was to recall in later years: "The silly thing was that the four of us had never really met. Bill [Roberts] is convinced he only got fit during the Games. He worked for a furniture firm and the boss was reluctant to give him time off. If he was running in an international at the weekend he wouldn't know until 1.30pm on Friday if he could compete. I was lucky being at Cambridge. I used to train for about an hour, an hour and a half, five days a week. People thought it rather a lot..."

This was the disarmingly casual approach that was about to be pitted against the world's best. There can be no instance, before or since, of a relay team being forced to get its act together *after* arriving at the Olympic venue.

None of this mattered when the gun went off for the start of the 4 x 400 metres event in Berlin's Olympic Stadium. Running the first leg, Wolff was in only fourth position when he handed over the baton to Rampling. But although 12 metres back, he had been able to remain at least within striking distance of the American leaders. Rampling (incidentally, the father of the film actress Charlotte Rampling) now ran a blinding leg, handing over to Roberts three metres ahead of the Americans. Roberts increased the pressure to hand over to Brown, as anchorman, a further three metres up. Brown now ran a killer final leg, closing out the opposition and extending the lead to 15 metres over the despairing American Alfred Fitch, who floundered in his wake.

The British time, 3 min 9.0 sec, was a European record, with the Americans in second place two seconds behind, and the Germans taking the bronze a further 0.8 seconds back. The 100,000 capacity audience could scarcely believe what had happened. For Germany it was an unwelcome defeat for the well-drilled system by four individuals; while the Americans wished that they, too, could simply run for the hell of it. For Brown personally it was pleasant recompense for his having been previously beaten in the individual 400 metres event.

Arthur Godfrey Kilner Brown was the son of a parson who worked in the mission field in India. He was educated at Warwick School, where he was an outstanding athlete, and Peterhouse, Cambridge, gaining a Blue in his first year. He was to win the 440 yards in three successive years in the match against Oxford. In 1935 he made his international debut in a match against Germany in Munich.

Nevetheless, before the 1936 games he had run only four serious quarter-mile races that year, though his fast times for both the 100 and 880 yards argued much for his speed and stamina, both necessary for that most punishing of distances, the 400 metres.

In Berlin, in spite of recording a European record of 46.7 seconds in the 400 metres individual event, Brown had to be content with the silver medal, finishing inches behind the winning American, Archie Williams. A few days later he shared gold with his compatriots.

Only a week after the Olympics Brown produced an even more blistering finish in the British Empire-USA match in London when, again as anchorman, he snatched victory from the American Lu Valle. After having been handed over to, well in arrears, by the third man in the 4 x 440 yard event, he finished three yards ahead of the American anchorman in a leg unofficially timed at 45.9 sec.

Brown was a dominating figure in international athletics over the next few years, winning the 880 yards in a match against Germany in 1937 and in the following year becoming both AAA and European champion at 440 yards and 400 metres respectively. He was the most distinguished member of a great sporting family. His sister Audrey won a silver medal in the 4 x 100 metres relay in Berlin and his brother Ralph had won the 1934 AAA 440 yards hurdles and competed in that year's Empire Games.

After leaving Cambridge Brown began a career as a schoolmaster. He was an assistant master at Bedford School, 1938-39; at King's School, Rochester, 1939-43; and at Cheltenham College, 1943-50. When he went as headmaster to the Royal Grammar School, Worcester, in 1950 it was still a voluntary aided school within the maintained system (it became independent in 1983).

Although as headmaster he continued to teach his subject, history, at sixth-form level, Brown was principally concerned with the overall development of the school and its pupils. He oversaw major building and curriculum developments, notably a new science wing. These relied heavily on the development fund appeal which was his brainchild; as a result of it, parents were persuaded to make generous contributions to their children's education. A believer in democracy, Brown consulted his staff on problems however great or small.

In retirement he lived first at Clifton-on-Teme, before moving to Sussex.

His wife Mary, whom he married in 1939, died in 1993. Their son and three daughters survive him.

JAMES JOHNSON

James Johnson, Labour MP for Rugby, 1950-59, and for Kingston-upon-Hull West, 1964-83, died on January 31 aged 86. He was born on September 16, 1908.

JIMMY JOHNSON was an old-style schoolmaster turned politician, a scholarship boy from a mining background, who was an instinctive Labour Party man. He was unfortunate never to gain office. He was also one of the best footballers the Commons has known. He played for British Universities and turned out regularly for the legendary Corinthians, when they were at the peak of the amateur game. He might well have turned professional — his talent attracted scouts from Leeds United, Huddersfield Town and Sunderland — but he decided that teaching and politics were better long-term prospects.

He was born in Northumberland at Radcliffe, almost in the shade of Alnwick Castle; his father was a miner and Johnson himself never lost the look of a pitman. He was small and dark, with a slightly rolling gait, and always looked as if he would like to put on his football boots again until trouble with his legs made this obviously impossible.

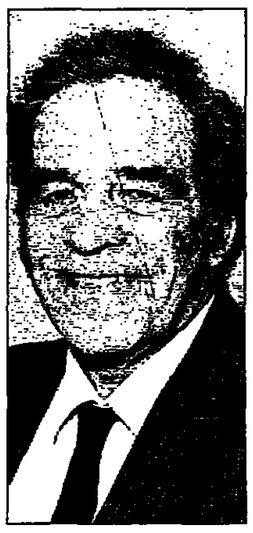
Johnson won his way from Duke's School, Alnwick, to Leeds University where he gained a first in geography. A Diploma in Education followed as he took the traditional route of the bright son of a miner from pit village to classroom. He taught at grammar schools in Atherstone, Scarborough and Coventry. It was at Coventry that he moved to lecturing in the technical college, and more important, became a parliamentary candidate.

He was chosen to fight Rugby, then held by W.J. (Bill) Brown, a former Labour MP who had moved to the Right, and won the seat as an Independent in a 1942 by-election. In addition to his parliamentary duties, Brown became a well-known radio broadcaster. Later he was to become more famous as a television performer in *Free Speech* and *In the News* with other early stars of television including Michael Foot and Bob (later) Lord Boothby. In the 1950 general election Brown was considered the favourite to win but instead Johnson came first with a bare four-figure majority over a Tory, with Brown coming in a humiliating third.

Rugby did not prove an easy constituency to hold. In 1951 Johnson scraped home by 199, improved his majority to 1,378 in 1955 but in 1959, when Macmillan scored his great victory after reviving the post-Suez Conservative Party, Johnson was out by 470. This was to prove more than the obvious setback it seemed at the time.

Johnson was away from the Commons for five years when other MPs were consolidating their reputations. In any case he had never got on with Harold Wilson. When Johnson returned to the Commons in 1964 the prospect of office had receded and, though he remained an MP until 1983, he was never offered a post though he was obviously qualified in two departments.

The first was in African affairs and overseas aid generally. When he first came to Westminster he attached himself to Arthur Creech Jones, then Colonial Secretary, and travelled frequently to Africa. He later became Overseas Officer for the General and Municipal Workers' Union and helped to organise African trade unions. He became the friend of many African leaders and his work for the continent over many years was recognised by several decorations, including Liberia's Order of the Star of Africa and Somalia's Order of



the Somali Star. In the Commons he became honorary treasurer of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

His other interest was in fishing. When he lost Rugby he was chosen to fight the eminently safe Labour seat of Kingston-upon-Hull West, which he continued to represent until he retired in 1983. He dedicated himself to the affairs of the Hull fishermen, making countless journeys with the trawler fleet in all types of weather to distant fishing grounds. His constituency also involved one of the other great loves of his life. He became a director of Hull City Football Club.

He is survived by his wife Gladys, whom he married in 1937, and by their daughter.

DOUG McCLURE

Doug McClure, American film and television actor, died from cancer in Los Angeles on February 5 aged 59. He was born in Glendale, California, on May 11, 1935.

DOUG McCLURE spent much of his working life as an actor in the saddle, most famously in *The Virginian* from 1962 to 1970. Developed from Owen Wister's novel, this was an ambitious project for NBC, being television's first 90-minute colour series. It revolved around the inhabitants of the Shiloh ranch who find their Wyoming cattlemen's way of life being eroded by outsiders from the East. The Virginian was played by James Drury, with Doug McClure as his assistant ranch hand, Trampas — a villain in the novel and the three previous film versions but rehabilitated as a happy-go-lucky young cowhand for the series.

After eight years as Trampas, McClure graduated to numerous films, some good, some very mediocre made-for-television affairs. However mixed the standard, McClure was rarely out of work. He was handsome in the clean, open mould of an American farm boy, with blue eyes, corn-coloured hair and a square jaw. He was rarely, however, allowed to drop his wholesome image or to be cast in a particularly intelligent light. The best were a handful of period science fiction films: *The Land that Time Forgot* (1974), *At the Earth's Core* (1976) and *Warlords of Atlantis* (1978).

McClure's father was an accountant and his mother a journalist who had been born in Kent and whose own father was a regimental sergeant major in the British Army. At high school in California an injury put paid to McClure's ambitions to be a swimmer or a footballer.

He left home at 16 instead to work on a Nevada ranch. Then, while surfing in Malibu one day, he was spotted by a Hollywood advertising agent and offered a spot in a TV commercial. That led to his first television role, and from there quickly to series such as *Checkmate* (1959-61), in which he played a private eye; *Overland Trail* (1960), in which he appeared as the assistant to a stagecoach driver; and *The Virginian*, which he joined in 1962, as Trampas. He also appeared in *The Virginian's* short-lived sequel, *The Men from Shiloh*, with the ranch now owned by an Englishman played by Stewart Granger.

Meanwhile, after eight years in *The Virginian* — shooting 198 episodes in all, sometimes two at a time — McClure began to trade on his popularity by accepting some big-budget film offers. The best of these was *At the Earth's Core*, with Peter Cushing and McClure as a couple of eccentric Victorian scientists attempting to reach the centre of the Earth by way of a geological excavator resembling a giant corkscrew. In *The Land That Time Forgot*, based on the Edgar Rice Burroughs novel, he found himself shipwrecked on an island of pterodactyls. *Warlords of Atlantis* was another marriage of Victorian costumes and fibre-glass monsters, this time strictly for children. There was also a part in *Roots* (1977).

He continued in the 1980s with a less memorable series: *Humanoids from the Deep* (1980), *The House Where Evil Dwells* (1982), *Cannonball Run II* (1983) and *Dark Before Dawn* (1988). He was diagnosed as having cancer last year, only a few months before the installation of his star on Hollywood Boulevard's Walk of Fame.

He leaves his widow Diane, and two children from previous marriages.

THOMAS MARTIN

Thomas Martin, former Conservative MP and political correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph*, died on January 28 aged 93. He was born on November 13, 1901.

THOMAS MARTIN was one of the dwindling band of Members of Parliament who sat in the Commons before the Second World War. In a sense, he was lucky to get there at all. Standing as a National Government candidate in the Labour rout of 1931, he was elected for the Durham constituency of Blaydon. It was the only time the seat was ever to fall into Conservative hands.

During his time in the Commons Thomas visited Germany and met Hitler, Goering and Goebbels. Having attended a Nuremberg rally and visited Dachau, he returned to warn of the evils of Nazism. As assistant editor of *The Spectator* he was a regular house guest of his patron, Lady Londonderry, the close friend of Ramsay MacDonald, and of the Astors at Cliveden.

The son of a surgeon and born in the Borders, where he was eventually to live at both Naworth Keep and Dacre Castle, Thomas Ballantyne Martin was educated at Giggleswick and Jesus College, Cambridge. Having decided not to stand in the 1935 general election, he left the House and subsequently became political correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* between 1937 and 1940.

He served in the Second World War as a squadron leader in the Middle East Intelligence Centre and then as public relations adviser to the British High Commissioner in Australia.

As secretary to the United Europe Movement between 1947 and 1948 he worked closely with Winston Churchill and was part of the British all-party delegation to the Congress of Europe at The Hague in 1948, where Churchill followed up his earlier pro-European unity speech at Zurich of two years earlier. He always regretted Churchill's loss of enthusiasm for the cause when the Conservatives regained power after the 1951 general election.

Later he became a member of the Stock Exchange but retained an acute interest in politics — making regular, and immaculately constructed, contributions to the letters pages of various newspapers.

In 1964 he and Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, now Tory MP for Wimbledon, reformed the Kit Cat Club based on the principles of the 18th-century Whig dining club. Several of its members — all much younger than himself — later entered public life.

In 1990 Mr Speaker Weatherill gave a dinner in honour of prewar MPs (there were 23 at the time, of whom only seven now survive) which revived the interest of historians. Tom Martin was one of those subsequently interviewed by the BBC.

He was in his element leading the conversation at the head of the table at Pratt's. When he tendered his resignation, his visits to London having became less frequent, the proprietor, the Duke of Devonshire, not only refused to accept it but waived his subscription.

Mentally alert though he was to the end, his physical disabilities mounted and he went on what he described as "a downward glide" to a serene death. He had married in 1953 Jean Bennett who was a support to him in his many activities. He is survived by her and by two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 7 1963

This was the first feature film made by Lindsay Anderson who died last year. Despite this rather acid review the film took a prize at Cannes and those, who perhaps saw it for the first time on television recently, may have had little difficulty in recognising its quality.

A Documentary Director Films a Novel

Odeon, Leicester Square
This Sporting Life

Mr. Lindsay Anderson, who acquired no small reputation by pointing a documentary film camera meaningfully at several tons of fruit, vegetables and humanity in Covent Garden Market, has now directed his first feature film. No one who knows his earlier work will be surprised to find he has struck yet another blow for the Contemporary Cinema. With a sure aim that was held steady by his producer, Mr. Karel Reisz, his principal player, Mr. Richard Harris, and his screenwriter, Mr. David Storey (who first wrote *This Sporting Life* as a novel), Mr. Anderson has hit the coffin nail squarely on the head. "Life", he seems to say, "is death, and even more so in the North Country".

The Anderson team has dredged up one of the notions that first came in on the Brainewave of novelists — the notion that the boss class is made up of smoothly operating hypocrites who are busy not only grinding the faces of the affluent proletariat but also trying to prevent it being seduced by their suburbanized wives — disillusioned women in search of more honest sons of toil. The film gives us one scene which cannot be taken seriously so soon after its hilarious counterpart in *Only Two Can Play*. It is an afternoon attempt at seduction in the Edwardian mansion of an aging blonde who rather fancies the rugger players of the city team promoted by her husband. This woman habitually fills glasses for men who make passes, but her current victim — the hero of the piece — refuses to be tackled. He is, presumably, too preoccupied with the exhausting exercise he is carrying out with his widowed landlady in the modish art of Failure of Communication. The Anderson team, like Antonioni, refuses to allow principal characters to establish a reasonable relationship with each other. But unlike Antonioni's world-weary Italians — intelligent people who are always caught by the camera on off-days, when conversation seems to bore them — the British film couple would never understand each other in a month of Sunday mornings and Saturday afternoons. Even before the rugged hero has his six front teeth knocked out, with a lot of subsequent blood-spitting, stump-removing and incoherent utterances in the American-Method manner, he fails to get on really friendly terms with the woman he thinks he loves.

Mr. Harris's performance and the playing of Miss Rachel Roberts in her scenes with him are the best things in the film. These two act together in the larger-than-life manner of the theatre and there are moments during their terrible fights when one is near to the feelings aroused by great tragedy. But the tragedy evaporates and the film becomes a dispirited exercise in backyard bickering — partly because there are so many scenes that are not credible and partly because there are so many which look as if they were contrived to be nurked away, as Classics of Cinema, in the National Film Archive.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Ministers dig in over teachers' pay

■ Ministers have dismissed calls for more money to fund a 2.7 per cent pay award for teachers and are prepared for a showdown with town hall chiefs and school governors.

Local authorities and schools will have to dip into their reserves and balances to meet the £270 million increase for 470,000 teachers. As an indication of their resolve, the Education Department yesterday took a tough line with school governors who threatened to exceed their budgets ..... **Page 1**

West committal hearing begins

■ The Cotswold town of Dursley became the centre of media attention yesterday as a stipendiary magistrate opened a hearing to decide if Rosemary West should stand trial for ten murders. About 150 reporters and photographers gathered for the first day of committal proceedings ..... **Page 1**

Assault claim

The political future of Allan Stewart, Scottish Office minister for industry, was under question after he was accused of assaulting a protester campaigning against the M77 extension ..... **Page 1**

Collision course

The Government and the Nolan committee are on a potential collision course over the rules governing the employment of former ministers in the private sector ..... **Page 1**

Policy rift

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, is to stage a Commons debate to propose a referendum on Europe amid signs of renewed tensions in the Conservative leadership ... **Page 2**

Princess delights

The Princess of Wales delighted her audience during a visit to a Tokyo hospital by delivering her speech partly in Japanese **Page 3**

Fire reforms

An overhaul of old-fashioned regulations and attention to prevention could halve the 600 deaths and 12,000 injuries caused by fire in England and Wales each year ..... **Page 4**

Cattle attack

An insurance litigation solicitor who was attacked and severely trampled by a herd of cows while out walking his dogs has won £45,000 damages ..... **Page 5**

Aunty opens doors

Broadcasting House will open its doors to visitors next year in an attempt to demonstrate the BBC's commitment to public accountability ..... **Page 7**

City divided

Residents of Gateshead are divided over a plan to spend £300,000 on a 63ft steel sculpture of an angel when there are holes in the roads and people sleeping in street doorways ..... **Page 8**

Fat chance

People over 50 are better off being fat than thin, according to a report which says research suggests that losing weight can be risky for those in middle age ..... **Page 9**

Gaza attack

An Israeli security guard was killed and another seriously wounded when Palestinian gunmen ambushed an Israeli tanker convoy in the newly autonomous Gaza Strip ..... **Page 11**

Loan in jeopardy

The Russian economy received another blow yesterday when a multibillion-pound International Monetary Fund loan appeared to be in jeopardy ..... **Page 12**

European doubt

Britain's partners are finding it difficult to work out how long John Major can remain Prime Minister and what kind of European policy will emerge from the Tory party's convulsions ..... **Page 14**

Supermarket attacks book agreement

■ Penguin Books is among leading publishers taking legal action to prevent the supermarket chain Asda from cutting the price of their best-selling books. In a direct attack on the Net Book Agreement, titles by Frederick Forsyth and Mary Wesley are among a dozen popular paperbacks that will cost £1 less at Asda than elsewhere ..... **Page 1**

ALAN WELLER

Past winners of the BBC Young Musicians award gathered at Television Centre, west London, yesterday to launch the 1996 competition

BUSINESS

Power offer: The cost of investing in the £4 billion sale of shares in National Power and PowerGen was unveiled yesterday, an announcement overshadowed by a row over executive share options. Members of the public wishing to participate will need to invest at least £352 ..... **Page 23**

Car sales: Motor executives fear interest rate rises will arrest the industry's recovery after sales of new cars fell in January for the fourth consecutive month .. **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index of leading shares climbed 2.3 points to 3,062.0. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 87.9 to 87.8, after slipping from $1.5647 to $1.5605 and rising from DM2.3862 to DM2.3387 ..... **Page 26**

SPORT

Cricket: England, already let down by bad fielding, collapsed to 27 for five in the final Test against Australia in Perth after being set a notional 453 to win ..... **Page 44**

Football: Terry Venables named four Tottenham Hotspur players, including the uncapped Nicky Barmby and Sol Campbell, in his squad against Ireland on February 15 ..... **Page 44**

Rugby Union: England chose an unchanged team for their next match in the five nations' championship against Wales in Cardiff on February 18 ..... **Page 42**

Racing: The entries for the 1995 Grand National contain last year's winner, Miinnehoma, and the last four winners of the Cheltenham Gold Cup ..... **Page 41**

FEATURES

Making history: "The locals love it." Bill Frost on the media circus surrounding Rosemary West . **Page 16**

Cindy Jackson: Joanna Pitman meets the woman whose 19 cosmetic surgery operations have helped to remake her in the image of Barbie ..... **Page 16**

BODY AND MIND

Sir Peter Imbert: The way to deal with a heart attack is by following the example of the former Metropolitan Police Commissioner and taking exercise ..... **Page 17**

LAW

Winning entry: Iain Pester's essay on the needs of a successful justice system won *The Times* law awards ..... **Page 37**

ARTS

The "new" Caravaggio: Discovered in a Dublin religious foundation five years ago, Caravaggio's magnificent *The Taking of Christ* has gone on show at the National Gallery in London ..... **Page 31**

Name of the Rose: A sumptuously sung revival of Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier* has opened at Covent Garden ..... **Page 32**

Stepping down: Peter Wright, suffering from an incurable disease, has announced his retirement from running Birmingham Royal Ballet, after a five-decade association with the company ..... **Page 33**

THE PAPERS

Not often do President Clinton, House Speaker Newt Gingrich and a large swath of the US business community agree on a thorny trade issue. But China's unabashed piracy of Kellogg's Corn Flakes, *The Lion King* and Microsoft software forged just such an alliance.

— *USA Today*

On Saturday the United States brought out the heaviest club ever swung at a trade partner, with sanctions on $1 billion worth of Chinese exports. Beijing hit back by vowing to sit on applications by US companies wanting to do business in China. Now that intellectual property has started a trade war, we wonder if there isn't a better way to handle these things.

— *Wall Street Journal*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Task for the Royal Marines. *Network First: Commando* (ITV, 10.40pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond says farewell to *Signs and Wonders* (BBC 2) ..... **Page 43**

OPINION

Hunt for principles

The Government must not allow the charge that it is setting up a "quangocracy" to stick. Lord Nolan should press Mr Hunt on this point today ..... **Page 19**

Talking Turkey

The Government's policy should not be influenced either by Turkish obstinacy or Greek pressure. It should be based on the continued recognition of the Cyprus government as the only legitimately constituted government on the island .. **Page 19**

Trophy of peace

The world should rejoice that the aesthetic horrors of totalitarian rule, whether of Hitler's assault on "degenerate" art or Stalin's "socialist realism", have given place to a shared appreciation of a magnificent common heritage ..... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN

The excuses for breaking the law pour out: the animals are being ill-treated; ordinary people, having nothing to do with the thugs, are joining the marches in tens of thousands, so they must be right; if the owners of docks and wharfs are using them for transporting the animals, then they have only themselves to blame if they are ruined; yes, we are breaking the law, but we claim a higher law ..... **Page 18**

PETER RIDDELL

It is sensible to be open-minded until the Nolan committee reports, especially on issues affecting MPs where Parliament will have the last word. But on other matters, notably the position of ministers and civil servants and appointments to quangos, the Government is giving up the chance to set the terms of the debate ..... **Page 10**

OBITUARIES

Godfrey Brown, Olympic medallist and former headmaster of Worcester Royal Grammar School; **James Johnson,** former Labour MP; **Thomas Martin,** former Conservative MP ..... **Page [illegible]**

LETTERS

Judges trespassing on powers of elected ministers ..... **Page 19**

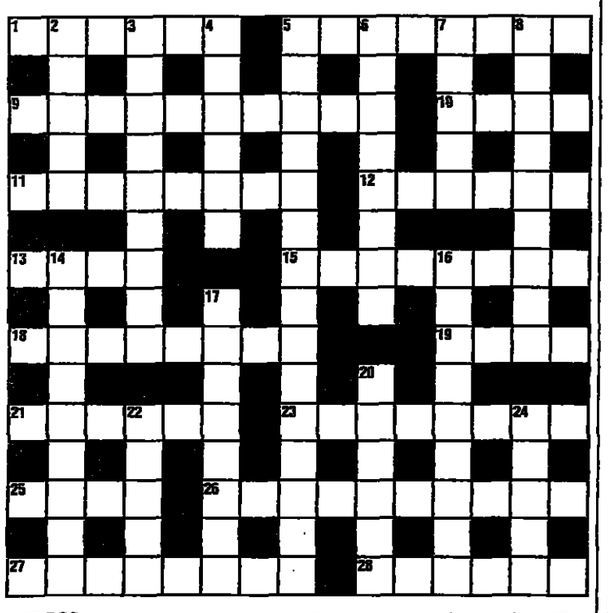
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ BUY ME, LOVE
Come live with me, and be my love: what price the Valentine's lovenest?

■ RUDE AND FREE
Brenda Maddox disputes John Birt's claim that journalism is a means to an end

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,772



ACROSS

1 Rabbit — one name is 'bun' (6)
5 Macaroni and ginger-beer imbibed by bird (8)
9 Let marines loose to reduce resistance. . . (10)
10 . . . instead of failing (4)
11 Man, a doctor, is abroad, providing capital support (8)
12 August, when melons are fully developed (6)
13 British water less weighty than Continental (4)
15 Both hot and cold wash eliciting a show of appreciation (8)
18 Be far too embarrassed, being not fully dressed (8)
19 Stone carried by persons unknown (4)
21 Everyone joins in poor song (6)
23 Meeting to discuss the office dance (8)
25 A very small quantity found in a cat (4)
26 Diverted train with lever beside the point (10)
27 Woman thrown up and down (8)
28 Ball held by Miss Piggy — or Kermit (6)

DOWN

2 Free article from the B.B.C. (5)
3 Bird grazing? (9)
4 Count more dead (6)
5 Party that, in power, tend to be undisciplined (5,3,4,3)
6 Henry participates in rustic game (8)
7 Verse included in Christmas story (5)
8 Bill, a print worker some go along with (9)
14 13 turned flower to stone (9)
16 Angry about ford, perhaps (9)
17 Kind of bowl made of metal, cast (8)
20 Ruffled horse carries rider at the start (6)
22 I have to catch the others, left at the start and the end (5)
24 A very small quantity found in a cat (5)

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Times Two Crossword, page 44

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S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
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National traffic and roadworks	
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East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Torquay and Teignmouth, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Machrihanish, Kintyre, 0.34in; highest sunshine: Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, 3.1hr.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.30 am — Sun sets: 5.00 pm

Moon sets 12.54 am — Moon rises 10.26 am

First quarter today

London 5.00 pm to 7.28 am
Bristol 5.10 pm to 7.38 am
Edinburgh 4.58 pm to 7.55 am
Manchester 5.03 pm to 7.43 am
Penzance 5.26 pm to 7.46 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be mostly dry at first, but rain in the north will spread south followed by clearer colder weather in the early afternoon. Rain will not reach the southeast until late evening. It will be mild generally, but cold in the north.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have clear or sunny spells and wintry showers, these chiefly over northern Scotland, but Northern Ireland may have rain at first and later. It will be rather cold.

☐ **London, Central S, SE England, E Anglia, E, W Midlands:** dry, becoming increasingly cloudy with rain later. Wind light to moderate westerly. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **NW, NE, Central N, E England, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland, N Ireland:** rain at times, turning wintry over high ground as colder weather spreads from north. Wind light westerly. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** cloudy with patchy drizzle, rain later. Wind light to moderate southwesterly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Glasgow, Argyll:** mostly dry with sunny spells. Wind light to moderate northwesterly. Max 5C (41F)

☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** clear or sunny spells and wintry showers. Wind fresh to strong northwesterly, but gale force in the far north. Max 3C (37F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain in the south clearing slowly on Wednesday, then mainly dry, bright and cold.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.7	-	11	52	c	Leuchars	0.2	-	11	52	r
Anglesey	-	0.02	10	50	d	Liverpool	1.5	0.01	11	52	r
Aspatria	-	0.10	9	48	r	London	-	-	11	52	c
Aviemore	-	-	9	48	d	Lowestoft	-	-	9	48	c
Belfast	-	0.02	11	52	c	Manchester	0.4	-	12	54	c
Birmingham	1.1	-	10	50	c	Margate	-	-	10	50	c
Bognor R	-	-	10	50	c	Minehead	1.8	-	14	57	b
Bournem'th	-	-	11	52	c	Morecambe	-	0.04	9	48	du
Bristol	0.1	-	11	52	c	Newcastle	0.5	-	11	52	c
Buxton	1.5	-	9	48	c	Newquay	0.2	0.01	12	54	c
Cardiff	-	0.02	10	50	d	Norwich	0.3	-	10	50	fg
Clacton	-	-	10	50	c	Nottingham	1.6	-	11	52	c
Colwyn Bay	3.1	-	13	55	b	Oxford	-	-	10	50	c
Cromer	1.5	-	9	48	b	Penzance	1.1	-	13	55	d
Doncaster	2.0	0.02	12	54	r	Plymouth	0.1	0.02	11	52	d
Edinburgh	0.5	0.01	11	52	r	Poole	0.2	-	12	54	c
Eskdalemuir	-	0.24	7	45	r	Scarboro'	0.8	-	9	48	c
Exmouth	1.2	0.01	13	55	c	Scilly Isles	0.3	-	11	52	c
Falmouth	X	0.02	12	54	d	Shanklin	0.5	-	11	52	d
Fishguard	0.2	0.04	10	50	d	Shrewsbury	1.9	0.02	12	54	r
Folkestone	-	-	9	48	fg	Southend	X	-	12	54	du
Glasgow	-	0.10	10	50	r	Southport	1.3	-	11	52	c
Guernsey	-	-	12	54	c	Stornoway	0.4	0.04	10	50	c
Hastings	-	-	9	48	fg	Swanage	-	-	11	52	d
Hove	-	-	9	48	du	Teignmouth	1.7	0.01	14	57	c
Isle of Man	1.0	-	11	52	c	Tenby	-	0.06	10	50	d
Jersey	-	0.01	11	52	c	Torquay	1.1	0.01	14	57	c
Kinloss	0.3	-	12	54	c	Tynemouth	0.1	-	11	52	c
Leeds	2.2	-	12	54	c	Weymouth	-	0.02	11	52	c
Lerwick	-	0.08	8	46	r						

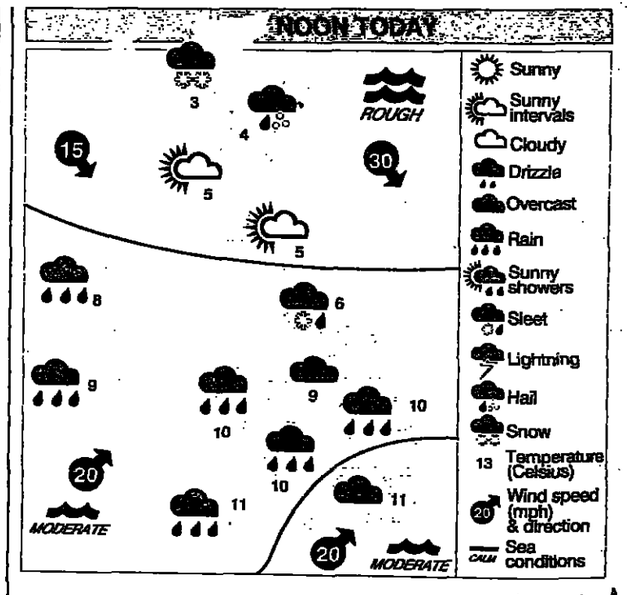
These are Sunday's figures

ABROAD

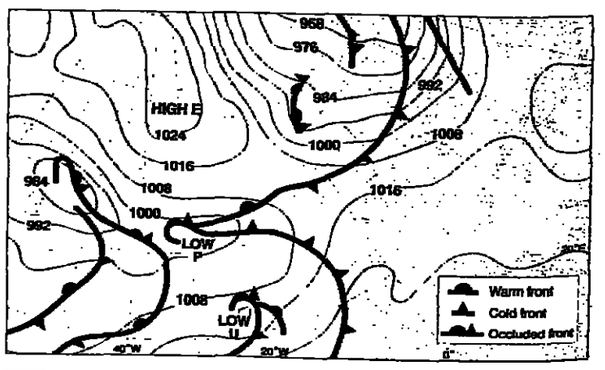
	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	s	C'phagn	7	45	d	Majorca	17	63	s	Rome	15	59	s
Akrotiri	15	59	f	Corfu	13	55	s	Malaga	17	63	s	Salzburg	7	45	f
Alex'dria	14	57	c	Dublin	11	52	f	Malta	15	59	f	S Frisco	11	52	c
Algiers	18	64	s	Dubrovnik	11	52	f	Melb'rne	18	64	c	Santiago	32	90	s
Amst'dm	10	50	c	Faro	17	63	c	Mexico C	18	64	f	S Paulo	25	77	c
Athens	6	43	r	Florence	9	48	s	Miami	18	64	s	Seoul	3	37	s
Bahrain	20	68	f	Frankfurt	10	50	c	Milan	10	50	s	Sing'por	25	77	c
Bangkok	27	81	s	Funchal	19	66	c	Montreal	-19	-2	s	Stkholm	6	43	s
Barbados	29	84	s	Geneva	5	41	c	Moscow	0	32	sn	Strasb'rg	9	48	d
Barcelona	17	63	s	Gibraltar	15	59	s	Munich	10	50	c	Sydney	20	68	s
Beirut	12	54	f	Helsinki	3	37	c	Nairobi	30	86	s	Tangier	17	63	f
Belgrade	7	45	f	Hong K	17	63	s	Naples	15	59	s	Tel Aviv	15	59	s
Berlin	9	48	c	Innsbrck	5	41	s	N Delhi	18	64	s	Tenerife	21	70	s
Bermuda	19	66	f	Istanbul	3	37	r	N York	-5	23	c	Tokyo	10	50	s
Biarritz	12	54	f	Jeddah	24	75	s	Nice	14	57	s	Toronto	-19	-2	sn
Boston	12	54	c	Jo'burg	29	84	s	Oslo	4	39	s	Tunis	17	63	f
Brussels	10	50	c	L Palmas	21	70	s	Paris	11	52	c	Valencia	20	68	s
Budapst	7	45	c	Le Tquet	10	50	f	Peking	12	54	c	Vanc'ver	5	41	s
B Aires	26	79	s	Lisbon	10	50	c	Perth	32	90	s	Venice	12	54	s
Cairo	13	55	c	Locarno	12	54	s	Prague	7	45	c	Vienna	10	50	c
Cape Tn	24	75	f	L Angeles	15	59	s	Reykjavik	-3	27	h	Warsaw	5	41	r
Chicago	-11	12	s	Luxembg	9	48	c	Rhodes	12	54	f	Wash'ton	-6	21	s
Ch'church	16	61	c	Luxor	20	68	f	Rio de J	31	88	f	Wel'ngton	20	68	s
Cologne	10	50	c	Madrid	11	52	s	Riyadh	19	66	f	Zurich	6	43	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: Lows P and U will drift towards the UK before sliding into NW France. High E will extend SE into Scotland and Northern Ireland



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6:03	6.60	6:35	6.44	Leith	7.33	4.57	8:02	4.51
Aberdeen	6.01	3.65	6:23	3.69	Liverpool	3:35	7.78	4:01	7.85
Avonmouth	11:37	11.08	11:52	10.77	Lowestoft	1:41	2.32	2:29	2.06
Belfast	3:54	3.02	4:18	3.06	Margate	4:22	4.26	5:01	3.98
Cardiff	11:27	9.63	11:40	9.50	Milford Haven	10:58	5.71	11.15	5.46
Devonport	9:58	4.66	10:24	4.51	Newquay	9:57	5.36	10:25	5.13
Dover	3:29	5.91	3:59	5.47	Oban	10:11	3.15	10:11	3.07
Dublin	4:26	3.45	4:51	3.50	Penzance	9:23	4.58	9:52	4.36
Falmouth	10:09	4.20	10:42	4.10	Portland	10:50	1.52	11:09	1.43
Glasgow	5:20	4.15	5.40	3.97	Portsmouth	3:47	4.23	4:06	3.93
Harwich	4:09	3.56	4:39	3.32	Shoreham	3:35	5.36	4:03	5.06
Holyhead	2:49	4.65	3:16	4.67	Southampton	3:15	4.03	3:37	3.83
Hull	10:51	6.19	11:09	6.22	Swansea	10:55	7.75	11:13	7.45
Ilfracombe	10:30	7.46	10:45	7.15	Tees	8:46	4.34	9:00	4.39
King's Lynn	11:15	5.11	11:45	5.01	W'ton-on-Nze	4:02	3.67	4:37	3.43

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The Times Atlas of the World
For your copy of our [illegible]

ARTS 31-33
Caravaggio's Irish masterpiece comes to London

LAW 35-39
Winning essay in The Times Norton Rose M5 Awards

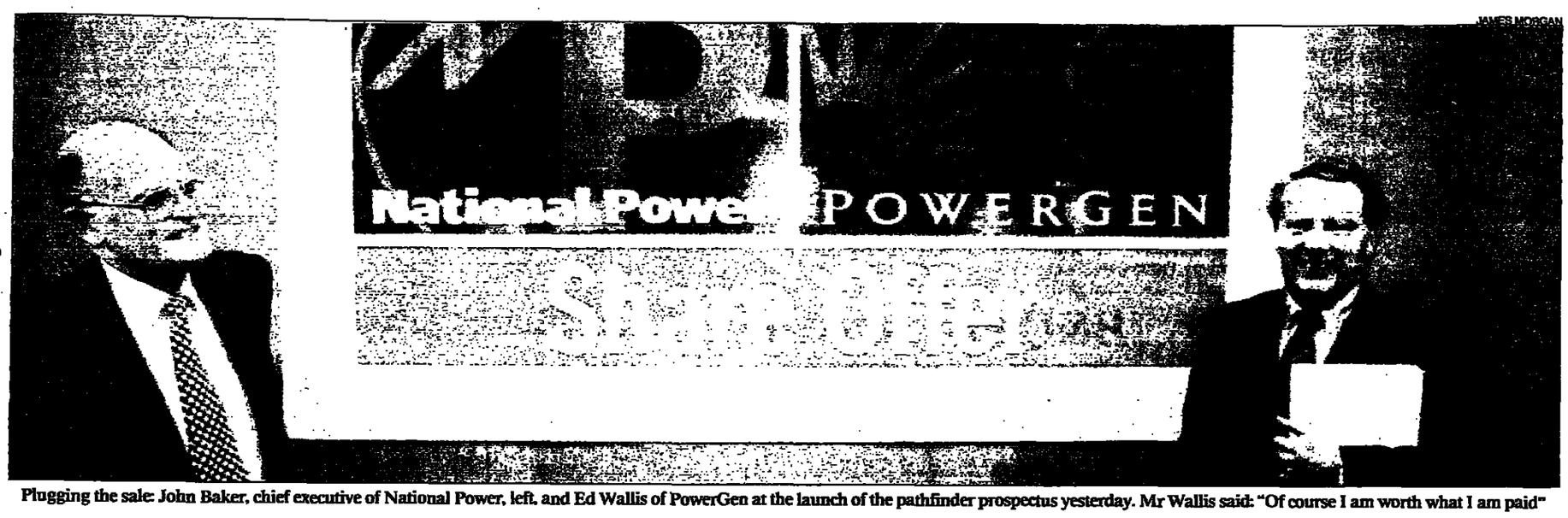
SPORT 40-44
Gooch takes a sorry bow from Test stage

EUROPEAN SUCCESS STORY
Small business 30

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1995

PowerGen chief defends share profit as prospectus gives 'health' warning



JAMES MORGAN

Plugging the sale: John Baker, chief executive of National Power, left, and Ed Wallis of PowerGen at the launch of the pathfinder prospectus yesterday. Mr Wallis said: "Of course I am worth what I am paid"

Options row mars power launch

By Martin Waller
Deputy City Editor

THE cost of investing in the £4 billion sale of shares in National Power and PowerGen was unveiled yesterday, in an announcement overshadowed by "health warnings" over possible regulatory action and a political row over executive share options.

Ed Wallis, chief executive of the smaller PowerGen, was forced publicly to defend his £1.2 million paper profits on share options at the official launch of the pathfinder prospectus for the two companies. This followed weekend reports that he was one of six PowerGen executives who made a total of £5.3 million on share options last year.

The prospectus has also had to highlight the difficult relationship between the two companies and Professor Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, who has threatened in the past to refer the two to the Monopolies Commission because of their strong position in the power generation market.

The prospectus had to be delayed by a week after the latest statement from Professor Littlechild, who again highlighted concern about high electricity prices.

But advisers to the float, and the companies, said the regulatory risk would not affect demand for the shares. David Clementi, a director of Kleinwort Benson, the broker acting as joint financial adviser to the Treasury, said the regulatory position would always be a factor in the future of the companies.

Mr Wallis, who ran the gauntlet of a strong contingent of press photographers as he arrived at the formal launch, was asked to justify his £400,000 basic salary and the profits from the options.

"I think I am worth what I am paid. Of course I am," he responded. "My pay is independently set — I don't negotiate it myself.

"Part of that remuneration is that the company has done very well and the shareholders have done very well. Given that, I don't think I have anything further to say." Pressed, Mr Wallis added that he had not cashed in all the £1.2 million in share options that he had received. He said he had been told that he owned "a substantially larger number of fully paid up shares than other people in my position".

The Labour Party continued the pressure over executive pay. Brian Wilson, the Shadow Trade Minister, said the sale of the generators' shares "is intended as a risk-free gift to investors". Together with the latest row on share options, this confirmed that privatisation of the power industry "has amounted to the legalised theft of public assets".

The Government has set a minimum investment of about £1,000 in the public offer of the shares, which is mainly aimed at the retail investor. The public is being offered a minimum of 120 National Power shares and 80 in PowerGen.

The first instalment under the public offer is 170p for National Power and 185p a share for PowerGen, setting a £352 minimum investment on application. The Treasury advisers have boosted the prospects for the sale by requesting dividend forecasts for this financial year. PowerGen is paying a 10p final, making a 15p total, up 18 per cent from 1993-94, while National Power's final of 11.1p makes a 15.45p total and a 24 per cent increase.

By last Friday evening 2.4 million potential investors had registered. A deadline of next Tuesday, Valentine's Day, has been set for registration, which entitles the investor to incentives and preference in allocation in the event of heavy demand. Payment for the shares will be in three instalments over 18 months.

Pennington, page 25
Share options monster, page 27

Laura Ashley cuts jobs

By Susan Gilchrist

LAURA ASHLEY, the fashion retailer, is shedding 200 jobs in a shake-up aimed at attacking the group's traditionally high cost base.

Half of the job losses will be in Britain, with the remainder in America and The Netherlands. Only management and administrative positions are to be cut.

Hugh Blakeway Webb, the chairman, said: "Our infrastructure was too large, there was too much duplication and we needed to be leaner." About 50 jobs have already been shed.

The cuts are part of a rationalisation plan costing £35 million. The group is to pull out of Australia, where it has 23 stores, and close other small loss-making businesses. An office in Fulham, west London, is to close and overseas sites at Boston and Eindhoven will be scaled back.

The group is to adopt tougher accounting policies on depreciation and stock writedowns, which will reduce the base level of profitability by £3 million. Christmas trading saw like-for-like sales up 18 per cent in the UK, 7 per cent in continental Europe and 2 per cent in North America.

Tempus, page 26
Following fashion, page 27

British Gas and Argentina in Falklands talks

From Evan Dyer in Buenos Aires and Ross Tieman

BRITISH GAS has held preliminary talks with potential partners about exploring for oil in the South Atlantic. Any decision to proceed will hinge on agreement over ownership of resources between Britain and Argentina at a summit next month.

The president of Argentina's largest oil company, Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales (YPF), Jose Estenssoro, confirmed talks with British Gas about drilling for offshore oil within the Falkland Islands exclusion zone established after the 1982 South Atlantic war, in an interview published yesterday in a leading Buenos Aires daily newspaper.

While negotiations between officials from London and Buenos Aires continue, local reports say that Britain has already decided to offer up to 15 exploration licences next month without Argentine consent or participation.

But a British Gas spokesman said: "We are interested in exploring for oil in the South Atlantic, but first there would have to be a political agreement in place between Britain and Argentina."

British Gas is already active as a gas distributor in Argentina, through its 30 per cent stake in MetroGas, which serves 1.75 million people in Buenos Aires.

Mr Estenssoro told *Clarin* that YPF and British Gas had jointly bought geological studies on the area and had simultaneously handed a written proposal to their respective governments. The report proposes that the two countries divide royalties if and when the oil proves profitable.

Despite encouraging results from seismic studies, any Falklands oil is likely to be found at great depth in open waters, costing between £15 and £25 million per drilling rig. YPF calculates that the minimum cost of assssing the area's potential would be in the region of £50 million.

The initial phase of exploration and evaluation will take about three years, Señor Estenssoro said. The would-be partners are searching for an ocean geology similar to that of the North Sea. They are said to be considering extending membership of the consortium to Petrobras, the Brazilian corporation with a vast amount of deep sea experience. British Gas would avoid a number of potential problems through its association with YPF, which has annual sales of over £3 billion.

President Carlos Menem's Government has said that it may expel from Argentina any company taking part in a unilateral British exploration. British Gas has invested heavily in gas and electricity in Argentina.

Motor industry blames new car sales slump on mortgage fears

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

SALES of new cars fell for the fourth consecutive month in January, and motor industry executives fear that interest rate rises will arrest the industry's recovery.

The figure of 191,186 cars sold in January was 3.7 per cent lower than the same month last year, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

The much-vaunted recovery sales of new cars, taken as a leading indicator of the economy's health, is now grinding to a halt with no monthly increases since September.

Industry leaders blame the slump on private buyers refusing to risk savings or to take out new credit on cars at a time of uncertainty over higher mortgage payments.

Sales to private customers last month fell by 13 per cent although businesses are still investing and company car sales rose by 7.5 per cent.

January is traditionally a strong month for dealers as buyers go to showrooms to take delivery of cars which will be registered in the new year, making their resale values stronger than if they were bought at the end of last year.

All the big three UK car manufacturers — Ford, Rover and Vauxhall — suffered from a drop in their January sales in spite of widespread incentives on a range of models.

Ford took the biggest share of the market with its Fiesta, followed by the Mondeo and Escort. But sales were down by more than 5,000 cars and the company's January market share fell from 24.4 per cent in January last year to 22.6 per cent last month. Vauxhall's sales were also down by nearly 4,000 and Rover's by almost 4,500.

At the same time, imports surged, with 112,599 cars brought in from overseas, accounting for 58.9 per cent of the new cars sold in January.

BMW was at the forefront with sales up from 4,869 last January to 6,214 this time; the 3-series model jumped into the best-sellers' list at number 10. But there were also big increases for Fiat, Honda, Peugeot, Toyota, Volkswagen and Volvo.

Jaguar saw a big leap in sales for its new range of "Big Cats". Sales were up from 812 cars in January 1994, to 1,159 last month. A spokesman said the XJ models were doing well around the world.

Fight for new mortgages restrains C&G

Longhurst: competitive

By Robert Miller

THE cut-throat competition for new mortgage business has taken its toll of profits at Cheltenham & Gloucester, the building society at the centre of a £1.8 billion takeover bid by Lloyds Bank.

The C&G yesterday announced that administrative expenses in the year to December 31 grew to almost £121 million, from £103 million in the previous year. A further £7.3 million was incurred in costs relating to the proposed takeover bid by Lloyds that was announced last April.

The society, which reported a £17.1 million increase in its annual pre-tax profits to £219.2 million, said yesterday that extra staffing costs and a new head office building, coupled with a £3.5 million advertising campaign, had accounted for more than half of the rise in expenses. The remainder was accounted for by the special cash gifts, worth up to £6,000 each, offered as an incentive to take out a C&G mortgage. The society said that, at £3 billion, new mortgage lending was the highest for three years. The price of acquiring a bigger share of the mortgage market meant that the important management expenses per £100 of the society's mean total assets rose from 61p to 65p.

In line with other societies, C&G reported a healthy drop in bad provisions, from £75.9 million to £31.8 million. Overall, the society's assets grew 9.7 per cent to £19.4 billion (£17.7 billion).

The increase in expenses at C&G came under fire from C&G Alternatives, an action group of investors who oppose the current takeover by Lloyds Bank. Paul Rivlin, of the pressure group, said: "The figures show the underlying robustness of C&G's business once again proving that Lloyds is not paying a premium for control of the society."

Rob Thomas, the building societies analyst at UBS, the stockbroker, who had predicted that C&G would post pre-tax profits of £250 million, said: "C&G could have tried harder to maximise its profits. But the society may have felt some pressure not to make a massive profit as there is no likelihood of Lloyds Bank increasing its valuation of C&G."

Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of C&G, said aggressive marketing had increased the share of a "slack" mortgage market. He added: "Our goal is to be even more competitive in future."

Pennington, page 25

Business Today

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3062.0	(+2.3)
Yield	4.24%	
FT-SE A All share	1508.21	(+1.50)
Nikkei	18667.23	(+128.26)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3928.31	(-0.33)*
S&P Composite	479.61	(+0.98)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 5/16%*	(5 5/16%)
Long Bond	98 22/32*	(98 11/32)
Yield	7.65%*	(7.64%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 1/4%	(6 3/32%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	101 27/32	(101 3/4)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5613*	(1.5635)
London:		
$	1.5601	(1.5643)
DM	2.3981	(2.3854)
FFr	8.2740	(8.2770)
SFr	2.0199	(2.0190)
Yen	154.92	(156.00)
£ Index	79.1	(79.1)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5302*	(1.5270)
FFr	5.2980*	(5.2930)
SFr	1.2944*	(1.2935)
Yen	99.30*	(99.85)
$ Index	62.8	(62.8)

Tokyo close Yen 99.55

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr) $16.65 ($16.80)

GOLD

London close $374.65 ($376.15)

* denotes midday trading price

Quaker sells pet food business

Quaker Oats, the American food group, is selling its US and Canadian pet food business to Heinz for $725 million only days after disposing of its European pet food arm to Dalgety
Page 25

BA profits soar

British Airways beat most City expectations as strong demand, capacity increases and cost reduction helped third-quarter, pre-tax profits surge 57 per cent to £102 million. This brings the nine months' result to a record £443 million, compared with £300 million last time.
Page 25, Tempus 26

Housing gloom

Starts on new homes in Britain dropped 3 per cent between the third and fourth quarters last year, after adjustment for seasonal factors, as the construction industry responded to persistent flatness in the housing market
Page 24

Dear John, Thanks to your 4.64% fixed rate mortgage, I am no longer outraged each time Mr Clarke raises interest rates.
Yours worriedly, A Blair

In the face of rising base rates, John Charcol's 4.64% (4.8% APR) mortgage is clearly in the national interest. Fixed until July 1996, it's available for both purchases and remortgages of up to 70% of the property's value. And we can provide up to 95% loans at a slightly higher rate. To increase its popularity further still, we offer no compulsory insurances and provide the full range of repayment options. For a written quotation, call John Charcol on (0171) 611 7000, or Leeds (0532) 470338. Or drop in and see us at 10-12 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DD.

4.8% APR

JOHN CHARCOL
TALK ABOUT A BETTER MORTGAGE
0171-611-7000

Typical Example: A £42,000 interest only mortgage on a property valued at £60,000 repaid over 25 years assuming completion on 15.02.95. 300 gross monthly repayments of £162.39 assuming a fixed rate of 4.64% (APR 4.8%) until 1/7/96 and further assuming the variable base mortgage rate remains at 4.64% after the initial fixed rate has expired for the remainder of the term. In practice the variable base mortgage rate might differ from that assumed. Total amount payable £91,448.27 calculated to include £95 arrangement fee, non refundable reservation fee of £39, £117.50 legal fee, £189 application fee (including valuation) and £90.77 accrued interest. Limited funds available. Loan subject to status. Loans are subject to the type and value of property. Additional security may be required in the form of a mortgage indemnity guarantee. Written quotations available from John Charcol Ltd. Credit broker fees of up to 1% of the advance may be charged depending on the type of product and credit period. John Charcol is a licensed credit broker. Be sure you can afford the repayments before entering into a credit agreement.

New house starts fall on interest rates gloom

By Colin Narbrough

STARTS on new homes in Britain dropped 3 per cent between the third and fourth quarters last year, after adjustment for seasonal factors, as the construction industry responded to persistent flatness in the housing market.

Provisional Department of the Environment figures, issued yesterday, showed that home starts for the whole of last year rose 9 per cent against 1993 to 201,500, with completions up 2 per cent year on year at 178,900.

Last year's increase largely reflected the buoyant mood in the housebuilding sector. After late spring, however, gloom set in, especially when interest rates started to rise in September. Last week's bank base rate increase is likely to dampen sentiment further.

The DoE data showed that in the final quarter of last year, housing starts rose 3 per cent higher year on year, but the trend in housing continues to slow, in spite of the strongest December for private sector starts since 1989.

Housing association starts fell after seasonal adjustment in the final quarter last year compared with the previous three months, while public sector starts remained low. Only private sector starts were up, rising 2 per cent.

The Government considers the three-month comparison to be the best guide to house construction, as the monthly data can be highly erratic.

Although builders have had some success in gaining market share for new houses, rising interest rates and changes to tax and benefits have been dampening the whole sector, and starts are expected to drop substantially this year.

The leading building societies' latest reports on the housing market confirmed the continued flatness of the market. Cabinet ministers have given no indication that the Government wants to rekindle it.

Motor industry sales figures, also out yesterday, showed new car sales down 3.7 per cent in January compared with the same month last year. It was the fourth consecutive month in which car sales have contracted year on year.

City analysts took the housebuilding and car data as further evidence of consumers remaining wary about large purchases. They expect overall consumer spending to remain sluggish this year.

However, today's industrial production figures are forecast to show manufacturing output rebounding in December after a sharp fall in November. Growth of 0.6 per cent is expected for overall industrial output in December, reversing some of November's 1 per cent contraction.

Halifax buys loans book from BNP

HALIFAX Building Society has completed the purchase of BNP's £1.5 billion centralised mortgage book from its parent Banque Nationale de Paris (Robert Miller writes).

The BNP purchase will double the size of the wholly-owned Halifax Loans mortgage book, which is worth £1.1 billion. The acquisition will also lift the Halifax's share of the UK mortgage market by 0.5 per cent to around 16 per cent.

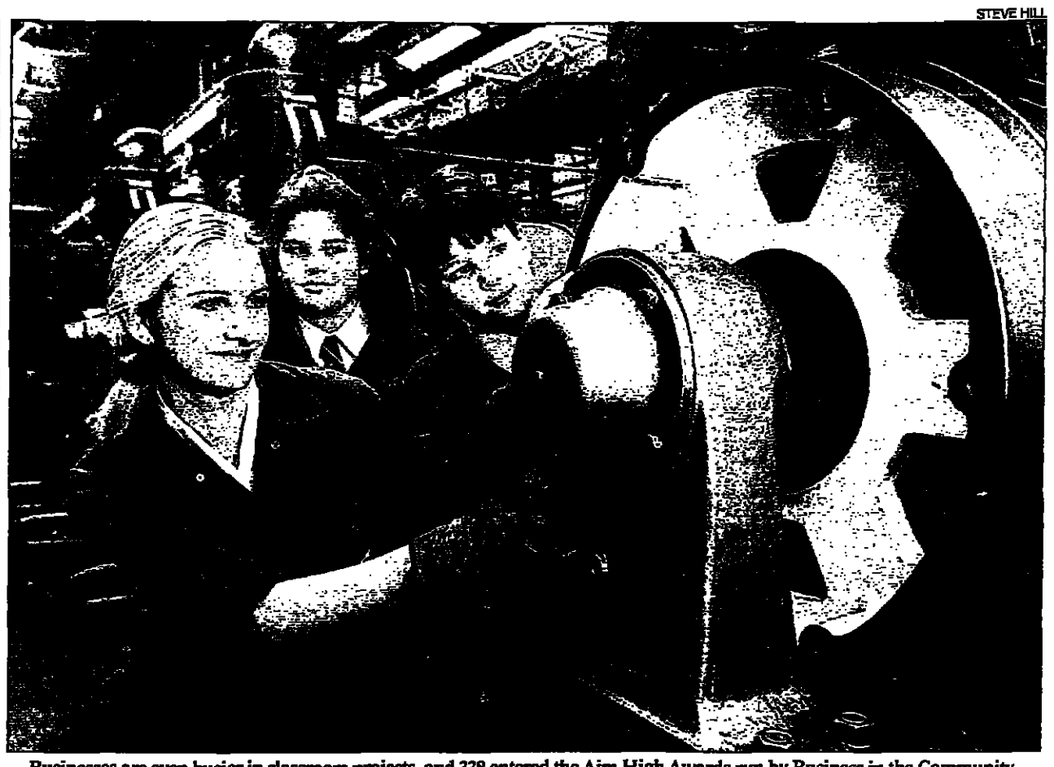
Mike Blackburn, chief executive of the Halifax, which has 1.8 million mortgage borrowers, said the deal "will further improve our share of the mortgage market in line with the Halifax's mission to become the biggest and the best personal finance business in the UK."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.00
Austria Sch	17.77	16.27
Belgium Fr	52.03	47.73
Canada $	2.289	2.129
Cyprus CypE	0.777	0.722
Denmark Kr	10.01	9.21
Finland Mkk	7.94	7.29
France Fr	8.70	8.05
Germany Dm	2.54	2.33
Greece Dr	393.00	368.00
Hong Kong $	12.70	11.70
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Italy Lira	2615.00	2480.00
Japan Yen	159.50	153.50
Malta	0.614	0.559
Netherlds Gld	2.823	2.593
Norway Kr	11.03	10.23
Portugal Esc	257.50	239.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.29
Spain Pta	214.50	200.00
Sweden Kr	12.28	11.48
Switzerland Fr	2.15	1.97
Turkey Lira	refer	61219.0
USA $	1.657	1.527

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

STEVE HILL



Businesses are even busier in classroom projects, and 338 entered the Aim High Awards run by Business in the Community. Winners included BP Chemicals, Port Talbot, with the Mynyddbach School, Swansea, and Express Lifts with Hopping Hill Lower School, Northampton. Pictured are Angela Morris, an Express apprentice, with pupils Stuart Dickie and Martine Landeman.

Scottish Mutual expands

SCOTTISH MUTUAL, the life assurance company acquired by Abbey National three years ago, is to expand into the health insurance market by buying Pegasus, the health insurance specialist, for £8.3 million (Sara McConnell writes).

Ian Gilmour, Scottish Mutual's director, strategic planning, said the group would use the deal to develop private medical and long-term care insurance. Pegasus already has critical illness policies, which pay on diagnosis of a life-threatening illness, and permanent health insurance policies, which pay out to those unable to work because of a long-term illness or disability.

☐ Lowndes Lambert Group announced yesterday that it is to buy Godfrey Merrit Robinson (GMR), the protection and indemnity insurance brokers, for a maximum of £10 million if GMR meets specified income and profit criteria.

B&Q to expand and create 2,350 jobs

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

B&Q, the DIY chain, is responding to last month's purchase of the Texas chain by Sainsbury's Homebase group with an expansion entailing the creation of 2,350 jobs.

In spite of the intensifying competition in the DIY market, B&Q, a subsidiary of the Kingfisher retail group, aims to stimulate demand by adding in-store advisers who will encourage customers to attempt more ambitious projects. Kingfisher recently pledged a further £50 million to continue its expansion programme.

The expansion plan, detailed yesterday, involves opening at least six new B&Q Warehouse stores, serving small builders and tradesmen, in the current year. Each store, covering more than 100,000 sq ft, will employ 250 staff. There will be 30 specialist staff at each centre, including tradesmen and interior designers.

The company also plans to facelift 20 of its smaller Supercentres, which are aimed at retail customers, to increase the emphasis on decorative goods, ceramics and kitchens and bathrooms. On average, each will take on 30 more staff. Three more Supercentres will be built, together employing another 250 people.

In total, the company expects to recruit 2,350 new workers to its additional stores, although 70 per cent, or some 1,650, will be part-time.

Bill Whiting, managing director of B&Q Warehouse, said the free advice from in-store technical and design experts was aimed at giving customers the confidence to take on DIY projects they would not previously have tackled.

"We think service like this is the key to making us different from our competitors," he said. "And in a saturated market we have to look at opportunities to create more demand."

Court blow to VAT recovery

By Robert Miller

COMPANIES looking to raise more finance through share issues face a collective VAT bill running into millions of pounds after a preliminary ruling by the Advocate-General in the European Court.

The court found in favour of Britain's Customs and Excise department.

The case had been brought by BLP Group plc, a UK company that sold the shares of a German subsidiary to raise extra cash. The Advocate-General ruled that Customs and Excise was entitled to prevent the recovery of VAT levied on some of the costs incurred in the sale. BLP Group had challenged the entire UK interpretation of the treatment of such costs.

Robson Rhodes, the accountant, said yesterday that Customs and Excise had generally tried to disallow VAT reclaims incurred on legal and other professional fees relating to flotations, rights and other share issues. But he added that until the EC ruling, companies had generally found a way of recovering a proportion of VAT on costs.

Nigel Roberts, VAT manager at Robson Rhodes, said: "VAT costs on even a small share issue could be up to £50,000. Customs and Excise is trying to restrict VAT recovery to finance-raising situations. This means that the many companies following the BLP Group example face a huge increase in their expenses, which could deter them from raising much needed additional finance." Mr Roberts added that the Chancellor had already tried to block VAT recovery on share issues in his last Budget.

Barrick plans gold mining bonanza

By Eric Reguly

BARRICK GOLD plans to build on its position as the largest gold producer outside South Africa by opening a new mine each year for the next four years, the company said at its annual investment meeting in London yesterday.

Barrick, formerly known as American Barrick, will open one mine in Nevada, two in Chile and one in Peru between now and 1998. It also will look for more acquisitions, even though it is still digesting its $1.6 billion purchase of Lac Minerals of Canada. Bob Smith, Barrick's president, said the company is negotiating for mining sites in China, and may even shop in South Africa. Under its current mining plan, Barrick, whose fortunes were made at its prolific Goldstrike Mine in Nevada, will experience its greatest growth in South America. Much of the company's expected $500 million cash flow in 1995 will be spent on developing properties there.

Barrick is the largest player in the rich El Indio Belt in the Chilean Andes. It has two mines at El Indio and will open a third, the Tambo Mine, in the spring. Another will open nearby in 1997. A Peruvian property, called Cerro Corona, will start producing a year later. Expansion in South America marks a departure for Barrick, because it has avoided political risk and stayed in the US and Canada. Now it cannot maintain growth without overseas operations.

Barrick said that its gold reserves at the end of last year increased almost 44 per cent, to 44 million ounces. Gold production in 1994 increased by about 700,000 ounces, to 2.3 million ounces. Net income rose 17 per cent, to $250.5 million on turnover of $954.5 million.

☐ Andaman Resources, the fomer Irish gold mining group, has sold its 24.9 per cent stake in Fleet International, a specialist software company, for an undisclosed sum. The company wants to concentrate on Southern Markings, its core road-markings business.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Bid speculation over MAI SelecTV stake

LORD HOLLICK'S MAI, the money-broking to television conglomerate, has taken a 4.19 per cent holding in SelecTV, the programme-maker responsible for the comedies *Birds of a Feather* and *Lovejoy*, in what speculators believe to be the prelude to a full bid. Shares in SelecTV, which has a 15 per cent stake in the southern England Meridian TV station, 61 per cent owned by MAI, climbed 2p to 24½p when the holding, bought through a nominee company, was uncovered.

A spokesman for MAI said the holding was "an investment" but could not say if it had been uncovered by means of a section 212 notice, used by companies to detect hostile or secretive shareholders. The two companies were in conflict a year ago over their joint holdings in Meridian. The row blew up over MAI's purchase of another regional independent TV company, Anglia, and the extent to which the possible cost savings from putting this with Meridian would flow through to the various shareholders. MAI is refusing to say whether its stake in SelecTV is hostile, while the latter was unavailable for comment.

Eastern cuts charges

EASTERN ELECTRICITY, part of Eastern Group, is cutting the standing charge for its three million domestic and small business customers by about 20 per cent, at a cost to the company of £30 million. From April 1, the normal quarterly standing charge will fall to £7.02, from £9.10. Small business users will see pro rata cuts to standing charges. The cuts arise from a requirement by Offer, the regulator, that Eastern cut 8.5 per cent off the total it is allowed to charge for distribution.

Low & Bonar sale

LOW & BONAR, the packaging group, has sold Bonar Bibby & Baron, its consumer bag business, to a management buyout team for its £2 million book value and the repayment of £6 million net debt. The company makes polythene and paper consumer bags for retailers. The buyout was backed by a consortium led by Candover, the buyout specialist, which invested £2.2 million, the management, Gresham Trust, Lazard Ventures and Royal Bank of Scotland.

Trencherwood ahead

TRENCHERWOOD, the housebuilder, increased its profits by 17 per cent, to £2.1 million, in the year to October 31, helped by a 52 per cent rise in sales, to £23.3 million. The company reduced its borrowings by £3.3 million, to £22.3 million, and sold 244 land units, an increase of 30 per cent. Trencherwood has 6,411 plots in its land bank, of which 5,567 are under option. It expects further rises in housing sales this year. The company is not paying a dividend.

Bryant buys EFG land

EFG, the garden centre and horticultural products group, has confirmed the sale of ten acres to Bryant Homes for £3.5 million plus half of future sales of houses on the site above £9.80 million. The site is 7.9 acres of EFG's Nightingales Garden Centre, near Pulborough, West Sussex, and 2.1 acres adjoining it. EFG said that the deal, the final hurdle of a two-year disposal programme, would lift net assets by at least £1.38 million, to £8.91 million, or 19p a share.

NAB acquisition

NATIONAL Australia Bank, which owns Yorkshire Bank and Clydesdale Bank, is paying $1.5 billion in an agreed bid for Michigan National Corporation. It is funding the acquisition from internal resources. Bill Irvine, NAB chairman, said the immediate effect on NAB's earnings per share would be negligible. Michigan National had total assets of $8.7 billion, and in 1994 earned an after-tax profit of $171.7 million, including some significant abnormal profits.

UCM's American deal

UNIVERSAL CERAMIC MATERIALS has lined up its first acquisition since its flotation last summer. UCM is paying up to $4 million for Taheto, an American fused magnesia manufacturer, which it took out an option to buy in December. UCM, already the largest supplier of magnesia to the North American electrical heating element market, also makes aircraft engine coatings and lens polishing materials. The shares, floated at 80p, closed unchanged at 96p.

Arcadian offer closes

ONLY 23 million of 40.7 million shares in an open offer and placing by Arcadian International, the hotels and leisure group chaired by Sir Peter Parker, have been taken up by shareholders. The balance was placed with institutional investors. The offer was seven for every 12 held at 37p, 1p below yesterday's closing price. Most of the £13.8 million proceeds will fund the acquisitions of two hotels.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF SDV HOLDINGS (UK) LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
No. 00366 1995
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 23rd January 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £10,000,000 to £3,969,892
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday the 15th day of February 1995.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 2nd day of February 1995.
Constant & Constant, of Sea Containers House, 20 Upper Ground, Blackfriars Bridge, London SE1 9PD, Solicitors for the above-named Company.

IN THE HIGH COURT IF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
No 008130 of 1994
IN THE MATTER of TEA TRADE PROPERTIES LIMITED -and- IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th January 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £100,000 to £847.81 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 26th January 1995
Stephenson Harwood
One St Paul's Churchyard
London EC4M 8SH (Ref 48)
Solicitors to above Company

Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Act (1986) SAN MARTINO LIMITED
In Liquidation
TAKE NOTICE THAT WE Michael William Young and Nigel John Hamilton-Smith of Morton Thornton & Co. Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Herts AL1 1HD were appointed Joint Liquidators of San Martino Limited by a resolution at the meeting of creditors held on 27th January 1995.
DATED this 31st day of January 1995. Michael William Young and Nigel John Hamilton-Smith, Joint Liquidators

NO. 00144 of 1986
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF AVESCO PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 12 January 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £12,000,000
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 15 February 1995
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose
A COPY of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same
DATED this 7th day of February 1995
Berwin Leighton
Adelaide House
London Bridge
London EC4R 9HA
Ref: IL/A520/16
Solicitors for the above-named Company

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 175(2) of the Companies Act 1985 that at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Gracechurch BES No. 6 Limited held on 31st January 1995 a payment out of capital by the Company for the purpose of the Company's redeeming 100,000 of its own shares from the Registered Holder thereof at their nominal value of £1 per share was approved by Special Resolution. The total amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £100,000. The Statutory Declaration of the Directors and the Auditor's Report required by Section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's Registered Office. Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the Resolution for payment out of capital apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an Order prohibiting the payment.
By Order of the Board
SBEC LIMITED
Secretary
Dated 31st January 1995
Registered Office:
8 Baker Street
London W1M 1DA

SUNNY B FOODS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that Richard Andrew Segal of A Segal & Co, Albert Chambers, 221-223 Chingford Mount Road, London E4 8LP was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company on the 28th July 1993 by the Members.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 175(2) of the Companies Act 1985 that at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Gracechurch BES No. 7 Limited held on 31st January 1995 a payment out of capital by the Company for the purpose of the Company's redeeming 100,000 of its own shares from the Registered Holder thereof at their nominal value of £1 per share was approved by Special Resolution. The total amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £100,000. The Statutory Declaration of the Directors and the Auditor's Report required by Section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's Registered Office. Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the Resolution for payment out of capital apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an Order prohibiting the payment.
By Order of the Board
SBEC LIMITED
Secretary
Dated 31st January 1995
Registered Office:
8 Baker Street
London W1M 1DA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 175(2) of the Companies Act 1985 that at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Gracechurch BES No. 8 Limited held on 31st January 1995 a payment out of capital by the Company for the purpose of the Company's redeeming 100,000 of its own shares from the Registered Holder thereof at their nominal value of £1 per share was approved by Special Resolution. The total amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £100,000. The Statutory Declaration of the Directors and the Auditor's Report required by Section 173 of the Companies Act, 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's Registered Office. Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the Resolution for payment out of capital apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an Order prohibiting the payment.
By Order of the Board
SBEC LIMITED
Secretary
Dated 31st January 1995
Registered Office:
8 Baker Street
London W1M 1DA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 175(2) of the Companies Act 1985 that at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Gracechurch BES No. 9 Limited held on 31st January 1995 a payment out of capital by the Company for the purpose of the Company's redeeming 100,000 of its own shares from the Registered Holder thereof at their nominal value of £1 per share was approved by Special Resolution. The total amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £100,000. The Statutory Declaration of the Directors and the Auditor's Report required by Section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's Registered Office. Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the Resolution for payment out of capital apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an Order prohibiting the payment.
By Order of the Board
SBEC LIMITED
Secretary
Dated 31st January 1995
Registered Office:
8 Baker Street
London W1M 1DA

NOTICE TO DAVID BRUCE PHILP COURT: A30/95
An action has been raised in Strasbraer Sheriff Court by Mrs. Penelope Jane Tates or Philp, Pursuer, calling as Defender David Bruce Philp, whose last known address was 25 Gould Road, Twickenham, Middlesex. If David Bruce Philp wishes to defend the action or make any claim or work any order, he should immediately contact Sheriff Clerk at Stranraer Sheriff Court House, Lewis Street, Stranraer, DG9 7AA, from whom the Service Copy Initial Writ may be obtained. If he fails to do so, Decree may be granted against him.
Jennifer W. Orkar
Messrs. Rankin & Aitken,
4/6 South Strand Street,
Stranraer.
Solicitor for the Pursuer

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver PRESS MOULDINGS LIMITED
Registered number: 1012284
Nature of business: Plastic Manufacturers & Fabricators
Trade classification: 11
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 27 January 1995
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): Barclays Bank Plc
P R Copp and G S Kinlan
Joint Administrative Receivers
(office holders nos) 1788/01 and 8268/01
Address
BDO Stoy Hayward
8 Baker Street
London W1M 1DA

TRAVERS McGRAN LTD AND TRAVERS McGRAN INTERNATIONAL LTD (Both in Administration)
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of creditors in the above matters is to be held at 2 Kirkick Street, London, N1 2LJ on the 20th February 1995 at 11.00am for the purposes of considering our proposals under s.22(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 and to consider establishing a creditors' committee. A proxy form which should be completed and returned to me by the date of the meeting if you cannot attend the meeting and wish to be represented. In order to be entitled to vote at the meeting you must give me not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of your claim. M. FISHMAN, The Administrator, Arthur Anderson, PO BOX 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT

008210 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF CRITCHLEY GROUP PLC
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 1st February 1995 confirming the cancellation of the share premium account of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 2nd February 1995
Dated this 7th day of February 1995.
Ashurst Morris Crisp
Broadwalk House
5 Appold Street
London EC2A 2HA
Reference: 5-00/4080000069
Solicitors for the said Company

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This notice is issued in compliance with the requirements of The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited ("the London Stock Exchange"). It does not constitute an invitation to any person to subscribe for or purchase any of the Ordinary shares or Warrants of Care UK Plc.

Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the whole of the issued Ordinary shares and Warrants of Care UK Plc to be admitted to the Official List. It is expected that admission to the Official List will become effective and that dealings in those securities will begin on 7th February, 1995.

CARE UK Plc

(Incorporated and registered in England and Wales under the Companies Act 1985 with registered number 1668247)

Introduction to the Official List
sponsored by
UBS Limited

Share capital

Authorised £	Number		£	Issued and fully paid Number
5,600,000.00	560,000,000	in Ordinary shares of 1p each	4,019,200.15	401,920,015
		Warrants		22,024,348

Copies of the Exempt Listing Document may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday, Saturdays and public holidays excepted, up to and including 9th February, 1995 from the Company Announcements Office of the London Stock Exchange and up to and including 21st February, 1995 from the following:

Care UK Plc
Crown House
Stephenson Road
Severalls Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 4QR

UBS Limited
100 Liverpool Street
London EC2M 2RH

7th February, 1995

Coopers & Lybrand
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in association with *The Times*
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Please tick one box for each category

COMPANY OF THE YEAR
☐ Ashtead Group
☐ Taylor Nelson
☐ Sheriff Holdings
☐ First Technology

NEW COMPANY OF THE YEAR
☐ Applied Distribution
☐ Trifast Group
☐ Domnick Hunter
☐ Finelist

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR
☐ Chris Ingram (CIA Group)
☐ David Lloyd (David Lloyd Leisure)
☐ Tim Martin (JD Wetherspoon)

Complete and send voting paper to:
Graham Cole,
Coopers & Lybrand,
Plumtree Court, London EC4 4HT.

YOUR NAME.....
YOUR ADDRESS.....
..... POSTCODE.....

• Nominations must be received not later than Friday, February 17

☐ Not-so-hidden risks in generators' float ☐ Moving to a fancier gilt-edged market ☐ C&G's rise in expenses out of character

Light in the dark of a power cut

☐ THE GOVERNMENT owes to Ed Wallis of PowerGen a debt that is worth more than a few insignificant share options. The latest row over his pay and benefits, although a rehash of information already in the public domain, has focused attention away from the fairly dire warnings that had to be inserted into the generators' prospectus.

As things stand, the two companies have two clear choices. They can hive off to competitors, probably coming from outside the UK and therefore straying onto their patch for the first time, a large chunk of generating capacity at whatever price these assets can fetch. Those competitors do not need to invest in Britain, but the generators do need to sell, a classic example of a buyers' market.

Otherwise, the two can put their industry through a wearying, time-consuming and potentially damaging Monopolies & Mergers Commission inquiry that could result, as with British Gas, in dismemberment.

The middle course is some form of plant sale that would not disadvantage the generators but would be permissible to the industry regulator. But it could prove impossible to steer. National Power, at least, has put one such deal to Professor Littlechild at the Office of Electricity Regulation, apparently suggesting a sale of plant that would continue to be tied in some way, but this approach has failed. The Professor wants a clean break.

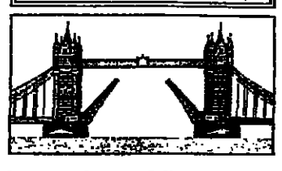
National Power's next option is to demerge 4,000 mw of plant into a separate quoted company, but this is not achievable by the *end of the year, Offer's sell-off* deadline. The company will therefore, presumably, be in default of Offer's ruling by, or shortly after, January 1.

PowerGen prefers some sort of asset swap with Continental parties, but the prospectus states even more baldly that there will be "significant difficulty" in matching its own plans to the objectives of the regulator. Professor Littlechild, already smarting from accusations of impotence in his control of the industry, may not be in conciliatory mood by the start of next year. The whole thing could end up in the European Court of Justice if the generators claim that leaving the second biggest player in the market, the Government-owned Nuclear Electric, out of any MMC inquiry would be discriminatory.

Still running is the row over high pool prices, which could provide a parallel and earlier route to the MMC. In a telling attempt to duck the issue, John Baker, Mr Wallis's counterpart at National Power, said yesterday he had no expectation of an MMC reference "this year". *Next year might be different.*

Potential private investors should be aware of all this. The flotation for them is bound to be a success, a badly-timed and total market collapse excepting, so bedecked are the shares with high initial yields, incentives, discounts and other bells and whistles. Those looking longer term should, however, be wary.

PENNINGTON



Bank prepares for Big Bang II

☐ IN ITS quiet style, the Bank of England showed the way in the Stock Exchange's first Big Bang. The same thing could be happening again. The Bank will almost certainly soon go ahead with plans for an open market in gilt-edged sale and repurchase deals — or repos. Since anyone could deal with anyone else, this would by-pass the carefully controlled competitive structure the Bank put in place nearly a decade ago. That has operated well, while maintaining useful vestiges of the captive loyalty that stifled the pre-Big Bang system. But the big American and Swiss houses like to do things their own way, and the Bank believes it is more *important that they should bring* their business to London. So London will have gilt-edged repos and, probably, the ability to strip interest from capital — part of the global trend to bring complex investments and derivatives into the mainstream.

Maintaining London as a financial centre looks a more important motive than trying to cut the cost of Government borrowing. While the Bank has sensibly rationalised the stock of gilt-edged issues to make more sense within a global bond market, its own doubts over inflation control may have cost taxpayers more than any market imperfections.

The Bank's latest review of the gilt-edged market shows that market-makers lost £60 million last year, even after a profitable fourth quarter. That has not helped the ambitions of the likes of SG Warburg. But the more spectacular mishaps of some American houses show that global complexity is no hedge against calamity.

The repo market, while opening new possibilities for investing institutions and specialists, will lead to more concentration, and more foreign domination. That may enhance London's primacy as a financial centre, but could make it more precarious.

The same trends are visible in raising and trading equities and corporate debt. Old hands therefore expect a second merry-go-round of structural change almost as sweeping as the first. Yet if Warburg, champion of round one, did not, in the end, quite make the grade, others will *think twice before throwing their* hats into the ring for round two.

Building societies must recall roots

☐ A PROFITS increase of just 8.5 per cent is not particularly flattering to the management of the Cheltenham & Gloucester, a society with a justified reputation for increasing its share of the mortgage market while keeping its overheads under control.

True, last year was a tough one for everyone selling mortgages. However, for C&G to increase its expenses by some 17 per cent seems out of character. C&G was under pressure to keep its profits as low as decently possible. A big hike would have led to calls for Lloyds Bank to increase its £1.8 billion offer — and there is no chance of that.

Millions of building society customers have, however, a right to expect that any takeover bid should be a fair reflection of what their assets in the society are worth. The forthcoming Treasury review of the Building Societies Act 1986 is expected to make it much harder for societies to sell assets too cheaply.

The Treasury has made clear that the management of building societies will in future have to be much more accountable to members. This must include more information on potential takeover bids. The Government intends to make sure that even if societies are swallowed up by bigger entities or join the stock *market, managers will still have* to pay more than lip service to their origins of mutuality. Building societies are mutual companies with assets owned by their members. The intention is that they should remember this long after they have shed their mutual skin and re-emerged in corporate guise.

Cheating on Emu

☐ WHEN the Chancellor sets out non-monetary conditions for a single European currency in his much-heralded speech on Thursday, he should emphasise the need to harmonise labour taxes on employers, which are much higher in France and Germany than in Britain. Under a single currency, countries levying high imposts on labour costs would effectively still be able to devalue by getting rid of them.

Quaker Oats quits pet food market with sale to Heinz

By Colin Narbrough, World Trade Correspondent

QUAKER OATS, the American food group, is selling its US and Canadian pet food business to Heinz for $725 million only days after announcing the sale of its European pet food arm to Britain's Dalgety for $700 million.

Tony O'Reilly, Irish president and chief executive of Heinz, said his Pittsburgh company's acquisition, with its focus on dog food, would provide a "perfect complement" for Heinz, which is strong in cat food.

He said that it would enable Heinz, whose group turnover of about $8 billion makes it one of the world's biggest food companies, to double turnover and profit in pet food products.

Quaker, which is based in Chicago, has for some time been considered a takeover target. Its decision to abandon pet foods to concentrate on cereal-based foods and wholesome beverages appears to be part of a strategic defence-building exercise.

On the New York Stock Exchange, Quaker shares were unmoved by the latest disposal announcement, but Heinz came off more than half a cent.

The deal with Dalgety, announced on Friday, has still to be cleared by the European Commission. If approved, as expected, it will make Dalgety Europe's second largest company in the sector.

In yesterday's follow-up announcement, William Smithburg, Quaker's chairman and chief executive, said that the sale of the North American pet food business was a logical and important step in the evolving realignment of Quaker's portfolio.

He underlined that for the first time in more than half a century, Quaker, one of the best-known names in breakfast cereals, would be entirely dedicated to human foods.

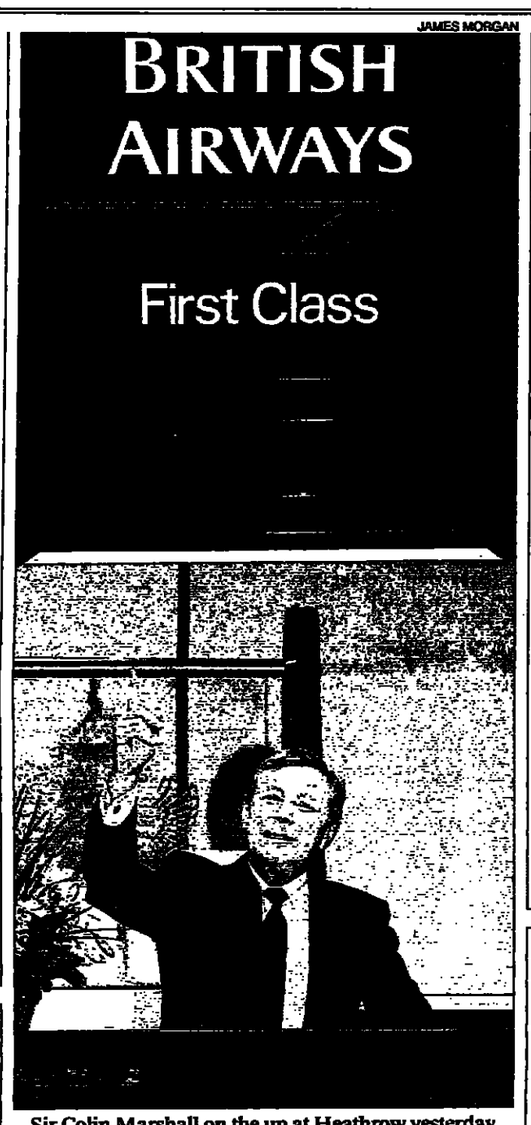
In addition to its breakfast foods business, Quaker is focusing on the Snapple beverages business, which it acquired for $17 billion in November, and Gatorade, the drink aimed at the fast-growing sports market. Gatorade sales last year reached $1.2 billion.

Quaker's pet food business, whose turnover last year was $540 million, is the second biggest in the North American market for dry dog food, with Kibble's Bits among its top brands.

Almost two thirds of Quaker's pet business is in dry dog food, a market worth $2.7 billion in America alone. The market leader is the Ralston-Purina group. Other Quaker brands are PupPeroni and Pounce pet treats and Cycle and Gravy Train dog food. The pet food division, which has large production plants in Kansas and Illinois, employs about 900 people.

Although Heinz is best known for baked beans, its pet food sales exceeded $600 million last year. Its leading brands include 9-Lives, which has a 27 per cent share of the American canned cat food market, and its dog foods included Reward and Skippy.

JAMES MORGAN



Sir Colin Marshall on the up at Heathrow yesterday

British Airways soars past profit forecasts

By Susan Gilchrist

BRITISH AIRWAYS beat even the most optimistic City expectations with a 57 per cent increase in third-quarter profits.

Pre-tax profits soared to £102 million in the three months to December 31, up from £65 million in the corresponding period last year and well ahead of analysts' forecasts of about £90 million.

The increase brings the nine months' result to a record £443 million, compared with £300 million last time. The shares rose 4½p to 374p at yesterday's close.

Sir Colin Marshall, BA's chairman, attributed the rise to strong demand, capacity increases and cost reduction. However, he also gave warning that price competition in the industry continued to be intense, with yields remaining under pressure.

Yields, the crucial measure of the average amount paid by each passenger per kilometre flown, slipped 0.2 per cent because of a slowdown in the rate of growth in premium traffic, price pressures and adverse exchange movements.

Sir Colin said that prospects were encouraging, with continued growth in demand, and the airline was on track to achieve its £150 million cost reduction target in the current year. Overall operating costs rose 5.3 per cent to £1.5 billion, but unit costs fell 1.5 per cent.

Tempus, page 26

Two futures brokers are banned for life

By Jon Ashworth

TWO futures brokers have effectively been banned for life from the financial services industry in a fresh clampdown by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB).

Peter James West and Paul Bingham, former directors of Gresham Futures, have been disqualified under section 59 of the Financial Services Act 1986.

Mr West, who was also a director of Overseas Client Services, had been fighting attempts by the SIB to publish a report on his conduct by the Financial Services Tribunal. He applied for an injunction on Saturday to restrain the SIB from publication. The application was refused.

The tribunal found Mr West guilty of rule breaches, including unauthorised investment business and falsifying documents. He had exposed clients to risk and fallen "far below the standard of being fit and proper", it said.

The tribunal said of Mr Bingham: "Those wishing to carry on investment business must ... tell the truth. Mr Bingham gravely violated these standards."

Fisher in buyout of importer

By Patricia Tehan

ALBERT FISHER, the food company, is to take a 60 per cent stake in Aqua Star, by taking part in its management buyout from BP Nutrition. Albert Fisher is putting in $5.4 million in cash and the management of the firm is investing the firm's net assets of $3.6 million.

The new partnership is part of Albert Fisher's attempt to expand its seafood operations in the North American market. Michael Girton, Aqua Star's president, and Robert Hooey, its executive vice-president, will hold the other 40 per cent.

Aqua Star, based in Seattle, imports, processes and distributes seafood products to retail and food service markets in North America.

Sales of the Aqua Star business being transferred to the new partnership were $151 million last year, with operating profits of $3.3 million. Albert Fisher said that the business will initially have bank borrowings of about $22 million.

Tempus, page 26

Profits leap 21% at News Corp

By Eric Reguly

THE News Corporation, driven by improved results from Fox Broadcasting in the US and its British newspapers, which include *The Times* and *The Sun*, last night reported markedly stronger earnings.

The company's after-tax operating profit, excluding exceptional items, rose 21 per cent to US$500 million for the half year to the end of December. Turnover climbed 17 per cent to $4.5 billion.

Including an exceptional gain of $110 million, profits were $610 million. The exceptional items included the gain on the sale of part of the company's interest in BSkyB, the British satellite television broadcaster.

Profit before tax and exceptional items rose 15.4 per cent to $556 million from $482 million in the period.

The international media group, which is based in Australia and headed by Rupert Murdoch, said the operating profits of its British newspapers increased 13 per cent over the same period last year. "This increase is primarily the result of a gain in advertising revenues from volume increases at each of the five titles, combined with a 15 per cent rise in ad rates at *The Sun*, *News of the World* and *The Times* in September," the company said in a release.

The American TV division, which includes Fox and eight TV stations, recorded the most dramatic improvements. Operating results in the period were up by 58 per cent.

Earnings from HarperCollins, the publisher, declined to $63 million from $84 million in the period. Book publishing was the only division that reported lower operating income. US operations continued to dominate the company. Turnover for the region was $3.2 billion.

News Corp shares rose substantially yesterday in anticipation of better results and on a ratings upgrade from Jessica Reif, an analyst at Merrill Lynch. Ms Reif put a "buy" on the shares, which climbed about 5 per cent to A$5.74 in mid-session trading in Australia. "Beginning with the third fiscal quarter, we project a return to double-digit earnings comparisons for the foreseeable future," she said.

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It supplies chemicals which play a part in many aspects of modern living: from agrochemicals to pharmaceuticals; foods to flame retardants; washing powder to water treatment.

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MARSH & MCLENNAN COMPANIES

Results for the year ended 31st December, 1994

(Unaudited)

	$ million (except per share figures)	
	1994*	1993
Total Revenue	$3,435.0	$3,163.4
Total Expense	2,764.7	2,570.6
Operating Income	670.3	592.8
Income Before Income Taxes	631.5	558.6
Net Income	371.5	332.4
Net Income Per Share	$5.05	$4.52
Dividends Paid Per Share	$2.80	$2.70

Reflects the adoption, effective January 1, 1994, of SFAS No. 112, "Employers' Accounting for Postemployment Benefits."

Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. is a professional services firm with insurance and reinsurance broking, consulting and investment management businesses. More than 25,000 employees worldwide provide analysis, advice and transactional capabilities to clients in over 80 countries. Our operating companies in the UK are:

Bowring Marsh & McLennan
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Carpenter Bowring
William M. Mercer
The Frizzell Group
Putnam Europe
National Economic Research Associates
Mercer Management Consulting

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Rivals prepare for more action in Trafalgar battle

THE battle for control of **Northern Electric** is likely to move up a gear later this week with the Government expected to announce whether or not **Trafalgar House's** £1.2 billion offer will be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Northern's price traded 3p lower at 955p in ex-dividend form. That compares with the terms from Trafalgar valuing it at about £10.48. Brokers in the Square Mile are becoming increasingly confident that the bid will not be referred, although some conditions may be imposed by the Government.

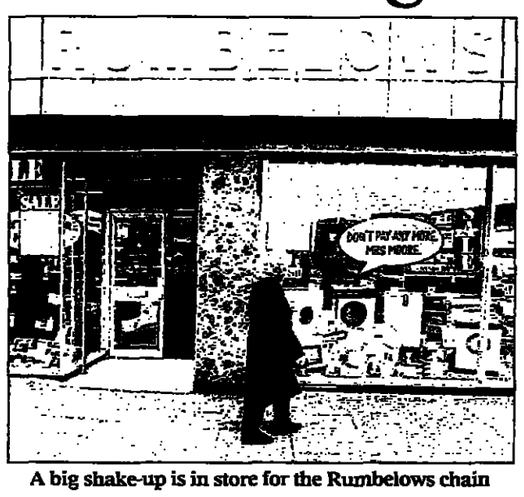
Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, has already made his submissions to the Office of Fair Trading. It is believed he feels there are no grounds for referring the bid, providing a takeover does not affect the regulation of that particular utility.

As a result, many brokers are pinning their hopes on a statement from Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, sometime this week, giving the bid his blessing. They say that if the deal is given the go-ahead, it could add at least £1 to Northern shares as the market attempts to extract better terms from Trafalgar, 1p dearer at 65p.

Elsewhere, share prices gave up an early lead as political worries returned to haunt investors. Friday's 60-point rise on Wall Street was all but forgotten as attention was focused on the worsening situation for the Government over Europe and the the Ulster peace process. Not even some comforting words from Eddie George, Bank of England Governor, at the G7 meeting could inject new life into share prices. Instead, investors chose to pay close attention to sterling's renewed weakness on world markets.

In low turnover, the FT-SE 100 index gave up an early 15-point lead to finish 2.3 points better on the day at 3,062.0 as a mere 453 million shares changed hands.

Lasmo, the independent oil group, which last year fought off an unwanted £1.6 billion bid from **Enterprise**, a rival, is again attracting the interests of the speculators with the price adding 5p to 156p. For the past few weeks there has been talk that Enterprise, 1p better at 407p, is looking to unload its 10 per cent holding in Lasmo. **Shell**, up 6p at 715p, is seen as a buyer for the shares before making a full bid. Last week saw heavy turnover in shares of Lasmo.



A big shake-up is in store for the Rumbelows chain

SelecTV, the independent television production company, hardened 2p to 24½p on learning that MAI had picked up 6 million shares, or 4.19 per cent. SelecTV has a 15 per cent stake in Meridian, the south of England independent television broadcaster, where MAI also has a 61 per cent controlling interest. MAI, 1p firmer at 238p, described the purchase as an investment.

Better than expected third-quarter figures lifted **British Airways** 5½p to 375p. Pre-tax profits for the quarter leapt £37 million to £102 million, lifting profits for the first nine months from £300 million to £443 million. Sir Colin Marshall, chairman, attributed the performance to better passenger load factors, and lower fuel costs.

Wellcome, fighting off an unwanted £9 billion bid from **Glaxo**, eased 1p to £10.17. The group has been given the go-ahead to launch Lamictal, originally launched in Britain in 1991 for use with other drugs, as a monotherapy treatment for epilepsy. It is the first time a drug has been granted a monotherapy licence for more than 20 years. Glaxo eased 5p to 661p. It is expected to produce interim figures and its offer document later today.

Thorn EMI lost an early lead to finish 1p lower at £10.49 ahead of nine-month figures this morning. The figures themselves are likely to attract only passing interest. Instead, the real focus of attention will be on **Rumbelows**, its loss-making electrical stores chain. Dealers say Thorn will today announce plans to close up to 100 of the 293-strong chain, with the remainder converted to a different format. Such a move is likely to dent the figures, which should see pre-tax profits grow from £271.1 million to £340 million.

The City took news of job cuts at **Laura Ashley** in its stride, with the share price shedding just 1p at 75p.

It looks like the gloves are coming off in the DIY market as the big retailers gear up to increase market share. **Kingfisher**, which owns the B&Q chain, says it intends to spend £20 million on expansion, creating up to 8,000 extra jobs. B&Q intends to redesign some of its supercentres and to open a further 50 new giant warehouses within five years.

The move by B&Q follows the acquisition by **Sainsbury** of 240 Texas Homecare DIY stores from Ladbroke last month for £297 million. Sainsbury, which already owns the Homebase chain, eased 1p to 430p. Kingfisher rose 4p to 427p.

Henderson Administration plunged 68p to £10.13 following a profits warning.

Investors had little appetite for Wessex Trust, a newcomer, which ended the first day at 10½p.

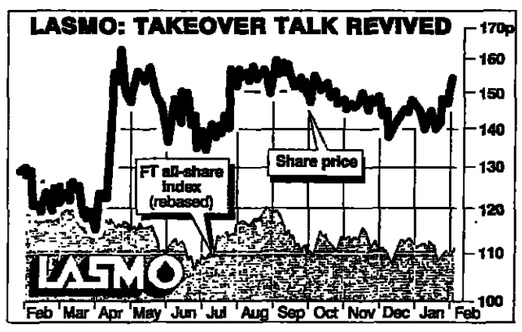
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts were marked higher first thing on the back of firmer US Treasury bonds and German bunds, but eventually saw their lead whittled away by further selling of sterling and political uncertainty.

In the futures pit the March series of the Long Gilt traded in narrow limits of £101⅝ and £101 31/32 before closing three ticks firmer at £101 27/32. Demand was low and by the close only 33,500 contracts had been completed.

In the conventional market, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 hardened three ticks to £95 21/32, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 put on a couple of ticks at £97 19/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** On Wall Street shares in banks benefited from a modest morning advance based on the perception that the economy was slowing. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 0.33 points down at 3,928.31.

There were signs of a rally at Tadpole Technology which sunk to a 174p low last month after warning of increased losses. The shares rose 12p to 207p yesterday helped by a buy recommendation from Albert E Sharp, the broker. Tadpole has a strong following in the Midlands, even if 1994 figures will reveal a loss of £1.35 million.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones ... 3928.31 (-0.33)
S&P Composite ... 479.61 (-0.96)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average ... 18667.23 (+128.26)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ... 7997.80 (+418.68)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index ... 413.42 (+0.89)

Sydney:
AO ... 1862.9 (-15.3)

Frankfurt:
DAX ... 2089.69 (+31.70)

Singapore:
Straits ... 2124.89 (+14.65)

Brussels:
General ... 7137.30 (+23.43)

Paris:
CAC-40 ... 1872.11 (+29.68)

Zurich:
SKA Gen ... 626.00 (+2.70)

London:

FT 30	2520.3 (+0.5)
FT 100	3062.0 (+2.3)
FT-SE Mid 250	3395.8 (+5.6)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1338.28 (+14.03)
FT A All-Share	1508.21 (+1.50)
FT Non Financials	1636.57 (+1.75)
FT Gold Mines	203.4 (-2.3)
FT Fixed Interest	105.57 (-4.011)
FT Govt Secs	91.37 (+0.14)
Bargains	22704
SEAQ Volume	453.2m
USM (Datastrm)	148.03 (+0.50)
US$	1.5605 (-0.0042)
German Mark	2.3887 (+0.0025)
Exchange Index	79.1 (Same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2575
£:SDR	1.0717
RPI	146.0 Dec (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

First Russ Fts ($10)	570	...
Grtmre Mic Ind	96	...
Grtmore Mic Wts	41	...
Lazard Birla Ida	53½	+ ½
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	31	...
MCIT S Cap (35)	34	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Matheson Lyds IT (100)	81	...
Pentex Oil	95	...
Wessex Trust	10½	...
Woodchester Uts	125	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dares Estates n/p (4)	¼	- ¼
Verity n/p (7½)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Nat Aust Bank	518p (+15p)
HSBC	671p (+19p)
CRH	370p (+10p)
Blue Circle	282p (+5p)
Sime Darby	143p (+6p)
Acorn Computers	91p (+11p)
Bowthorpe	306p (+7p)
Copymore	150p (+10p)
Eurotherm	392p (+8p)
Mitel	296p (+44p)
Tadpole Tech	207p (+12p)
Bodycote	324p (+11p)
Huntleigh Tech	498p (+43p)
Brit Biotech	560p (+22p)
Thomson Corp	755p (+20p)
Ranger	380p (+25p)
EFM	723p (+9p)
Rathbone Brs	265p (+10p)

FALLS:

Schroders	1323p (-12p)
SG Warburg	748p (-13p)
Shorco	104p (-6p)
Inchcape	309p (-8p)
Broken Hill	871p (-13p)
Dalgety	414p (-5p)
Henderson Ad	1013p (-62p)
Zeneca	895p (-7p)
Watmough	355p (-8p)
Essex Furn	119p (-7p)
Land Sec	570p (-6p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Taking wing at BA

HOW rare for an airline to see its market come right on all fronts: demand from passengers is on an upward trend, fuel costs are falling and airline capacity is growing, but at a lower rate than the growth in traffic. A confident British Airways predicted that the strong demand would continue, but the market only gave the shares a gentle nudge upwards. BA continues to trade at a discount to the market on a one-year view, despite bullish forecasts of 16 per cent growth in earnings in the next financial year.

Investors have already discounted the demand story — well flagged by recent traffic figures from BAA showing 7.4 per cent growth, more or less in line with BA's own passenger growth. Meanwhile, fuel costs are being kept in check with sluggish worldwide oil prices, a trend which is likely to continue, and BA is committed to cost reductions of £150 million in the current year.

All would be fine without the competition: the recent multi-billion franc rescue of Air France reminded the market that efficiency is a virtue most respected at home. Even in good times, BA is fighting an almost continual price war, and is now taking to the streets with its World Offers campaign. The company is resigned to expecting no real growth in yield per passenger, expecting profits from cost-cutting and volume. Joint ventures are the strategy to gain market share, and even troubled US Air is bringing in $100 million per year. However, such investments give the airline little opportunity for control, and investors are nervous that BA will be pushed into bigger and more risky investments in the search for more passengers.

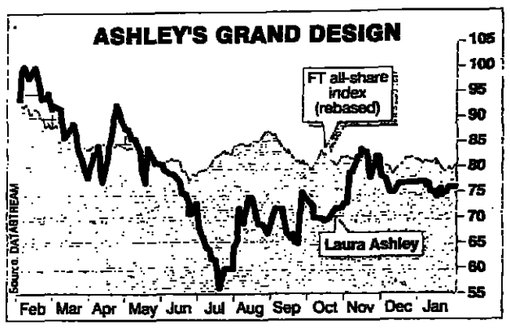
Laura Ashley

LAURA ASHLEY'S new regime promised to attack costs and it has certainly delivered. Shareholders will welcome the efforts to improve profitability, but it does not come cheap. A £35 million rationalisation programme which delivers £10 million in annual savings looks poor value for money.

At least the management is moving in the right direction. An absurdly large infrastructure plagued with overmanning has hindered any progress of the bottom line. Last year the group made profits of just £3 million on sales of more than £300 million — an appalling return for a business which sells a premium priced product.

The other significant drain on profits has been the loss-making North American retail operations. Again, the new team is taking action, closing down about 40 smaller, unprofitable stores and opening larger sites which can carry the full range.

Hugh Blakeway Webb, chairman, believes the region will be back in the black in the current year — a promise that his predecessor lived to regret making but now seems more likely. Shareholders will be less pleased to hear that the group has postponed its search for a new chief executive. Cadbury aside, it can be of little comfort to see the business headed up by Sir Bernard Ashley's tax adviser. The shares are unlikely to spark into life, unless a predator emerges.



Base metals

FEAR and loathing has broken out in the metals markets, with prices of nickel, zinc and tin falling by about 15 per cent since the middle of January and copper and aluminium losing 7-8 per cent. Investors in equities will scarcely be surprised, though given the poor performance of mining shares over the past four months, with RTZ, the lead indicator in London, losing more than 10 per cent of its value since October.

The main culprit appears to be hedge funds. These invested heavily in metals last year, anticipating a sharp recovery in prices due to increased demand from North American manufacturers. At the same time, producers have been cutting down in a bid to bring historically depressed prices back to profitable levels. Speculators now see prices moving ahead of sustainable growth in demand and investors will be focusing on a downturn in the commodity cycle, which many believe could be well under way next year.

Signs that base metal prices are cooling should be welcome, and will provide ammunition for those who argue that inflation fears have been overdone. Demand for metals is likely to be stable long-term as manufacturers seek greater efficiencies.

Meanwhile, producers are notoriously prone to overproduction, suggesting more pain before metals prices achieve equilibrium.

Henderson

FUND management is one of those win-win and lose-lose businesses, and unfortunately Henderson Administration is stuck in the latter category due to past poor performance. Because fund managers are judged on rolling five-year performance cycles, a couple of bad years can skew performance for a long period.

Add to that a year of negative returns from the equity market, and you have a dog's dinner in terms of profits and revenue.

Poor markets shrink the value of the funds under management and tend to drive off retail investors, although Henderson is claiming advances in its unit and investment trust business, which thankfully earn better rates of return than pensions.

Unfortunately, Henderson cannot do without its pensions business, and it must soon find a way of stemming the client losses which are said to include a local authority and the Lonrho pension fund. Weakness might attract a bidder, but the market is distinctly cool on the logic of bids in financial services, particularly when the bidder is unwelcome. But unless Henderson can shift the dead weight of the past, it may have little choice but to be subsumed in a larger group.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	992-991	May	1037-1035
May	991-990	Jul	1047-1043
Jul	1002-1001	Sep	1056-1055
Sep	1013-1012	Dec	1069-1067
Dec	1021-1020		
Mar	1028-1027		Volume: 4448

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	2670-2669	Nov	2588-2585
May	2610-2609	Jan	2585-2570
Jul	2590-2585	Mar	2590-2570
Sep	2595-2585		Volume: 4158

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	344.5-43.5
Spot: 399.7		Dec	342.0-40.0
Mar	388.0-87.1	Mar	338.5-36.0
May	382.0-81.5	May	337.5-34.1
Aug	371.0-70.0		Volume: 4566

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 3

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	87.54	121.61	119.45
(+/-)	+5.51	+2.70	+1.79
Eng/Wales:	87.54	121.64	119.41
(+/-)	+5.51	+3.57	+1.67
(%)	+9.0	-21.0	-3.0
Scotland:	unq	119.74	121.65
(+/-)	–	-1.73	+2.58
(%)	–	-7.0	5.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.05	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	17.10	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.65	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	18.40	-0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.20	-0.25

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 160 (+1)	O: 162 (n/c)	
Gasoil EEC	149 (+2)	150 (+2)	
Non EEC 1H Mar	151 (+2)	152 (+2)	
Non EEC 1H Apr	152 (+2)	153 (+1)	
3.5 Fuel Oil	101 (+2)	103 (+2)	
Naphtha	163 (n/c)	165 (n/c)	

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	146.25-46.50	May	149.50-50.00
Mar	148.50-48.75	Jun	150.00-50.25
Apr	149.50-49.75		Vol: 16301

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	17.08-17.09	Jun	16.57 SLR
Apr	16.66-16.68	Jul	16.51 SLR
May	16.57-16.60		Vol: 43856

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	108.75	Mar	107.90
May	110.45	May	104.15
Jul	111.85	Sep	97.15
Sep	98.35	Nov	99.00
Nov	99.40	Jan	100.50
Volume: 114		Volume: 50	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	340.0	336.3
May	unq	355.0
Jun	–	unq
		Volume: 105

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Mar ... 123.75-124.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 95	1960	1950	1963
Mar 95	1965	1961	1961
Apr 95	1975	1950	1960
Jul 95	1740	1720	1735
Vol: 144 lots		Open interest: 3241	

Index 1958 = 1

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2809.5-2810.0	2805.5-2806.5	1049150
Lead ($/tonne)	559.00-560.00	579.00-579.50	196350
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1023.0-1024.0	1050.0-1051.0	525450
Tin ($/tonne)	5490.0-5500.0	5580.0-5590.0	29950
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	2015.0-2016.0	2059.0-2060.0	1312750
Nickel ($/tonne)	8745.0-8750.0	8899.0-8900.0	69216

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom.	500	34	42	52	8½	17	21
(*519½)	550	9½	16½	27½	34	44½	47
Argyll	260	26	31½	34	4	8	10½
(*279)	280	13½	19½	22½	10	17½	19½
ASDA	60	9	10½	11	1	2½	2½
(*67½)	70	2½	5	6	4½	5½	7
Boots	460	23½	32	36½	10	20	22½
(*466½)	500	7	14	19	35	44½	46
Br Airways	360	26½	35½	41½	7½	16	19½
(*374)	390	11	20	27	22½	31½	35
BP	390	35½	43½	49	4	9	11
(*419)	420	16	25	31	15	20½	22½
Br Steel	140	17	21	23½	1½	4	5½
(*153½)	160	5	9½	12½	10	13	14
C & W	390	21½	31½	40	11½	19½	24½
(*398)	420	8	17½	26	28½	36	41
CU	493	14½	—	—	26½	—	—
(*493)	543	2½	—	—	67	—	—
ICI	700	47½	58½	65	15	21½	27½
(*738)	750	18	33	40½	41½	46	52½
Kingfishr.	420	25½	31	37½	11	22	27
(*427)	460	8½	14½	20½	35½	47	51
Land Sec	550	33½	41½	47	7	17	21
(*570½)	600	9	15½	21½	32	46½	50½
M & S	360	36	41	47½	3	7½	9½
(*388½)	390	15½	21	29½	12½	19	21½
Nat West	460	34½	43	49½	13	17	24½
(*488½)	500	12½	23½	30	34	37½	45
Sainsbury	420	24	31½	38	8	17	19½
(*430)	460	6½	13	19½	32	40	42
Shell	700	26½	39	49	17½	22	28
(*714)	750	6½	17½	26	52	54	58
Smkl Bch.	460	31½	41	51	9	15	20½
(*481)	500	11	22	31½	29½	35½	40½
Storehse	220	17½	21	24	3	7	8½
(*229½)	240	7	10½	14	13	17	18½
Trafalgar	60	8	10½	12½	2	3	3½
(*65)	70	3	5½	7½	7	8	8½
Unilever.	1150	42½	62½	84½	30	41½	47
(*1164½)	1200	18½	39	59½	61½	70½	75
Zeneca	850	59½	74½	88½	19½	24	31
(*895)	900	30	47½	61½	43½	48	54

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met.	360	15	28½	32	1	6½	11½
(*374)	390	0½	12½	16½	16½	21	26
Ladbroke.	160	7	12	17½	1	7	11
(*166)	180	0	4½	9	14	19	22½
Utd Bisc	330	8	17	23	2½	15½	22½
(*334½)	360	0	6½	13	25½	37	41½

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	450	20½	—	—	11	—	—
(*454)	475	9	—	—	26	—	—
Thames W	460	22	30½	35	11	26½	29
(*463½)	500	6½	13½	18½	38½	52½	54½

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	420	29½	38	43½	0	12½	20
(*448½)	460	3	14½	23	13½	34	41
BTR	300	7	13½	21½	2	12	16
(*309)	330	0	4	9½	26	34	35½
Br Aero	448	36½	47	—	0	11½	—
(*483½)	487	7	24	—	8½	27½	—
Br Telecm	390	13½	27	34½	1	7½	14½
(*403)	420	0	11½	18½	17½	22½	29½
Cadbury	409	6	21	32	5	13½	17½
(*409½)	447	0	6½	15½	37½	39	40½
Guinness	420	11	22½	30	2	14½	18
(*428)	460	0	6	13½	32	41½	43½
GEC	280	9½	20½	25	1	5½	11
(*289)	300	1	10	14½	11½	15½	22
Hanson	220	16	19	22½	0	3½	7
(*235½)	240	1½	8	12	6	12½	16½
LASMO	140	16½	20½	24	0	2½	4
(*156)	160	2½	9	12½	6½	10½	12½
Lucas	180	6½	14	19½	1½	8	11
(*184½)	200	0	5½	11	15½	20	22½
Pilkingtn.	140	9	14½	18	1	4	6½
(*148)	160	0½	5	8½	12½	14	17
Prudential	300	5	12½	20	4	16½	19½
(*300½)	330	0	3	9½	29½	39	41
Redland	420	14½	25	32	2½	21	25
(*431½)	460	0½	8	15	28½	49	52
R-Royce	160	3	9½	14	3	9	12½
(*160)	180	0	3½	6½	20	24	25½
Tesco	240	13½	20	24	0½	6½	9
(*252½)	260	1½	9	14	8½	16	19
Vodafone	183	11½	—	—	0½	—	—
(*193½)	200	2	10	14	8	12½	16
Williams	330	7½	17½	23½	3	14	18
(*334½)	360	0	5½	11	25½	34½	37½

FT-SE INDEX (*3061½)

	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200
Calls						
Feb	125	79½	41½	16	5	1
Mar	138½	99½	67	42½	24	12
Apr	156	121½	91½	66½	45	30½
May	172½	143	113	88½	66½	49½
Jun	—	157	—	102½	—	62½
Puts						
Feb	4	10	23½	49	94	144
Mar	21	32	50	79½	108	148½
Apr	42	57½	77½	102½	131½	166½
May	51½	69½	90	115½	144	178
Jun	—	82	—	128½	—	188

February 6, 1995 Tot: 33572 Calls 16927 Put: 16645 FT-SE Calls: 6591 Put: 5584

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3077.0	3083.0	3061.0	3069.0	8295
Previous open interest: 65603	Jun 95	3079.0	3079.0	3073.0	3078.5	3
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3405.0	3405.0	3405.0	3395.0	11
Previous open interest: 4044	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	92.96	92.97	92.94	92.95	18980
Previous open interest: 449293	Jun 95	92.28	92.31	92.25	92.29	23538
	Sep 95	91.86	91.88	91.81	91.85	8827
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95	93.56	93.56	93.56	93.54	100
Previous open interest: 2349	Jun 95				92.99	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.79	94.81	94.77	94.78	13226
Previous open interest: 746704	Jun 95	94.41	94.42	94.36	94.37	17740
Long Gilt	Mar 95	101-30	101-31	101-20	101-27	33633
Previous open interest: 97831	Jun 95	102-03	102-03	102-03	102-02	2
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.43	108.52	108.41	108.44	1628
	Jun 95	107.69	107.75	107.69	107.69	95
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	90.67	90.82	90.50	90.55	97926
Previous open interest: 216234	Jun 95	90.22	90.25	90.10	90.03	538
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.67	93.70	93.65	93.67	757
Previous open interest: 24161	Jun 95	93.15	93.21	93.15	93.16	908
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	95.90	95.92	95.89	95.89	2599
Previous open interest: 44603	Jun 95	95.56	95.60	95.55	95.55	1296
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	100.43	100.70	100.25	100.42	30951
Previous open interest: 56072	Jun 95	99.50	99.56	99.50	99.49	3

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 6¼ Week fixed: 6⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6½; 3 mth 6¼. Sell: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth: 6⅛.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6 11/16-6 9/16	6⅝-6 11/16	6 9/16-6 7/16	7-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	6 11/16-6¾	6¾-6 11/16	6 13/16-6 11/16	7⅛-7 1/16	7 11/16-7 7/16
Interbank:	6 11/16-6¾	6¾-6 11/16	6 13/16-6 11/16	7⅛-7 1/16	7 11/16-7 1/16
Overnight: open 6¾, close 6¼.					
Local Authority Deps:	6⅝	n/a	6 11/16	7	7 1/16
Sterling CDs:	6 9/16-6 7/16	6 9/16-6 7/16	6 9/16-6 7/16	7-6 15/16	7⅛-7 1/16
Dollar CDs:	6.04	n/a	6.15	6.45	7.04
Building Society CDs:	6¾-6⅝	6 11/16-6¾	6 13/16-6 11/16	7⅛-7 1/16	7⅛-7⅛

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5½	6¼-5⅞	6¼-6	6¼-6⅛	5¾-4¾
Deutschemark:	4 9/16-3 15/16	5-4 9/16	5 1/16-4 11/16	5⅛-5 1/16	5⅛-4⅛
French Franc:	5 1/16-5 1/16	5 1/16-5 1/16	5⅛-5⅛	6⅛-6	6-5
Swiss Franc:	3½-3⅛	3 11/16-3 7/16	3 15/16-3 11/16	4 1/16-4 1/16	4⅛-3⅞
Yen:	2⅛-2	2 1/16-2 1/16	2 1/16-2 1/16	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $375.00-375.40 Close: $374.40-374.90 High: $376.00-376.50
Low: $374.10-374.60 AM: $375.25 PM: $374.50

Krugerrand: $377.00-379.00 (£241.50-243.50)

Platinum: $413.50 (£265.90) **Silver:** $4.68 (£2.995) **Palladium:** $157.50 (£101.30)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 6	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6710-2.6781	2.6744-2.6777	¼-¼pr	1¼-¼pr
Brussels	49.04-49.20	49.09-49.20	7-3pr	21-11pr
Copenhagen	9.3930-9.4130	9.3980-9.4130	¼-¼pr	2½-1½pr
Dublin	1.0065-1.0099	1.0067-1.0094	8-5pr	17-12pr
Frankfurt	2.3833-2.3896	2.3865-2.3896	¼-¼pr	1½-⅝pr
Lisbon	246.03-247.13	246.49-247.13	43-52ds	177-198ds
Madrid	206.78-207.29	206.78-207.08	21-36ds	88-120ds
Milan	2512.60-2517.60	2514.30-2517.60	3-4ds	11-13ds
Montreal	2.1712-2.1880	2.1793-2.1824	0.16-0.25ds	0.36-0.49ds
New York	1.5558-1.5610	1.5596-1.5606	0.07-0.05pr	0.21-0.16pr
Oslo	10.4330-10.4580	10.4410-10.4570	1½-¼pr	3½-2½pr
Paris	8.2630-8.2850	8.2670-8.2810	¼-¼pr	2⅛-1⅞pr
Stockholm	11.5990-11.6810	11.5990-11.6230	¼-1¼ds	2½-4½ds
Tokyo	154.79-155.45	154.79-155.05	¼-¼pr	1⅛-1½pr
Vienna	16.76-16.82	16.78-16.81	2½-1¼ds	7½-5½pr
Zurich	2.0183-2.0236	2.0184-2.0213	¼-¼pr	1½-1¼pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3299-1.3308
Austria	10.77-10.78
Belgium (Com)	31.50-31.51
Canada	1.5970-1.5975
Denmark	6.0306-6.0326
France	5.3045-5.3060
Germany	1.5305-1.5310
Hong Kong	7.7303-7.7313
Ireland	1.5446-1.5461
Italy	1613.50-1614.50
Japan	99.39-99.43
Malaysia	2.5527-2.5537
Netherlands	1.7152-1.7157
Norway	6.6980-6.7010
Portugal	157.83-157.93
Singapore	1.4615-1.4625
Spain	132.70-132.80
Sweden	7.4553-7.4628
Switzerland	1.2950-1

How industry created the share option monster

As criticism mounts, firms seek a new formula for rewarding executives, reports **Jon Ashworth**

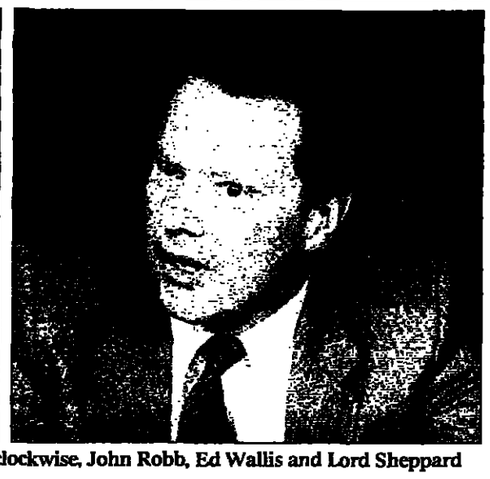
Wind the clock back ten years, and you would be lucky to have heard even a whisper about executive share option schemes. They were brand new — a ploy to stop senior UK executives skipping to more lucrative jobs across the Atlantic. It was felt that something was needed to encourage directors to stay at their posts.

Like Frankenstein's laboratory, the experiment has spawned some monstrous offspring. Directors who probably had no intention of going to America in the first place are suddenly earning "bonuses" worth millions of pounds by exercising options granted to them at substantially lower prices in the Eighties. Who can blame your average struggling citizen for suspecting that a rather cosy club mentality has infested our boardrooms?

Ed Wallis, chief executive of PowerGen, has become the latest target in the continuing fusilade over boardroom pay. Mr Wallis and a handful of fellow directors were granted options when the former Central Electricity Generating Board was hived off into PowerGen and National Power in 1991. The value of PowerGen shares increased by 172 per cent over three years, leaving the senior directors with a healthy paper bonus on top of their salaries. Mr Wallis earned £400,000 in salary last year. The share options brought him a tidy £1.2 million.

PowerGen says most of the directors have retained large tranches of their shares rather than selling them — paper profits, in other words — but the mechanism that permits such astonishing windfalls continues to be regarded with suspicion. It has its roots in legislation introduced in 1984 which cleared the way for Inland Revenue-approved executive share option schemes. Beneficiaries who stuck to the rules would face capital gains tax, but would be exempt from income tax on any eventual windfall. The Labour Party has been quick to attack this "unjustified" tax relief, and kept up the assault yesterday, claiming that share options worth more than £23 million had been handed out to directors at National Power and PowerGen since privatisation.

Companies rushed to introduce share option schemes after the legislation, and haste brought generous dividends. Most schemes at the time were introduced with no strings attached. Directors were given the right to buy a specified number of shares in the future at a pre-determined price, regardless of how the company performed. In simple terms, a director granted shares at, say, 100p, would be free to buy them at that price after a fixed period of time, during which the share price might have risen to 500p. They would be guaranteed an "instant" profit — the difference between the original and current share price. Towards the end of the 1980s, pressure from institutional shareholders compelled companies to start imposing performance conditions on such schemes. Earnings per share became the typical measure.



Soft options?: Sir Christopher Bland, top left, and, clockwise, John Robb, Ed Wallis and Lord Sheppard

The present row over executive pay has homed in on the privatised water and electricity companies, since it is here that the differential between past and present remuneration packages is at is most extreme. Directors earning a relative pittance before privatisation have seen their packages rise fivefold in some cases, and options are part of the equation. Richard Young, former managing director of Midlands Electricity, collected £480,000 in share options as part of a retirement package worth more than £1.1 million. Bryan Weston retired as two-day-a-week chairman of Manweb, the electricity distributor, with a package of shares and options worth more than £1 million.

> The mechanism that permits such astonishing windfalls is viewed with suspicion

Share options became an issue long before utilities found themselves in the firing line. Two years ago, the guns were trained on London Weekend Television, when it emerged that a handful of senior executives stood to make millions out of a "golden handcuffs" share option scheme, designed to stop talent defecting during the 1989 television franchise round. Shares issued at 83p had soared in value to 458p. Hostile overtures by Granada sent the share price soaring and left 40 directors holding shares worth £75 million. Sir Christopher Bland, former chairman of LWT, originally paid £296,000 for his options. At the time the bid succeeded, he held shares worth £14 million. Greg Dyke, then chief executive, was left with a £9 million stake.

Glaxo's £9.5 billion bid for Wellcome has brought share options back into the spotlight. Six Wellcome directors stand to make £6 million from share option entitlements if the offer is successful. John Robb, chairman, could make £1.54 million if he exercised his options and sold them at Glaxo's offer price of £10.25p for each Wellcome share.

Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, the chairman of Grand Metropolitan, recently added a new phrase to the remuneration lexicon — phantom share options. It emerged that he was to receive £95,056 in a bonus scheme based on relative share price performance as part of a salary and options package worth £1.34 million. He made a profit of £415,279 from exercising options last year.

The Government has tried to spread the benefits of share option schemes to a wider audience. Entities such as Abbey National and NFC have made a point of encouraging employees to participate in various special share schemes. Savers with Abbey National were given 100 shares each at 130p with the option to buy more when it came to the stock market in 1989. The shares have since risen more than three-fold in value.

The key weapon in the drive to encourage share ownership in its widest sense is the Save As You Earn (SAYE) share option scheme — promoted as a means of encouraging workers to participate in the future prosperity of their employers' company.

The SAYE schemes give employees the right — or "option" — to buy at a future date a certain number of shares in the company at a price fixed when the option is granted. Employees can pay between £10 and £250 a month over a five-year period into a speciallydesignated bank or building society. During the five-year period the contributions earn tax-free interest or bonus. At the end of the term the lump sum can be used to buy the shares.

Faced with a rising tide of adverse publicity, companies appear to be exploring alternatives to executive share option schemes. One such alternative is the restricted stock plan, under which executives are awarded a block of shares that they cannot touch for a period of, say, five years. If targets are hit, the shares are awarded free of charge.

Followers need faith in fashion of Laura Ashley

Susan Gilchrist looks at what the future may hold after ten years of troubles

Laura Ashley may sell pretty dresses, but it invariably delivers unattractive news. The latest instalment of hundreds of job losses and huge restructuring charges will come as little surprise to long-suffering shareholders who have been hearing bad news almost since the day the company came to the stock market in 1985.

Then, investors rushed to pay 135p a share in a company whose extraordinary rise had become the stuff of legend. From a small attic in London in the early 1950s where the eponymous founder made head scarves at her kitchen table, the business blossomed into an international fashion group.

But Laura Ashley's death in September 1985 marked a turning point. The group that had built its following on old-fashioned, floral designs suddenly seemed out of place in the power dressing of the late 1980s. The group aimed for growth, but expansion was badly managed and there were insufficient financial controls. Inevitably, borrowings got out of control, rising to £100 million, while losses escalated. In the year to January 26, 1991, the company plunged £11.5 million into the red. Laura Ashley was only brought back from the brink by a refinancing and restructuring that saw Aeon, the Japanese retailer, inject £30 million in return for a 15 per cent stake.

> It aimed for growth, but expansion was badly managed

The prospects for recovery appeared to take another step forward in September 1991 when Jim Maxmin was poached from Thorn EMI to become chief executive. Mr Maxmin's business school jargon and marketing hype may not have gone down well with everyone in the City, but he seemed to have a defined strategy for the brand.

Whether that plan would have worked will never be known. His recovery programme went off the rails in 1993 when the North American operations incurred heavy losses. By April of the following year he was out.

The official line was that there had been a "mature disagreement" between Mr Maxmin and the rest of the board over the level of investment in the business. To the outside world, it looked like a boardroom bloodbath. Mr Maxmin's ambitious, and some would say grandiose, visions for Laura Ashley had been firmly rejected by his colleagues.

Mr Maxmin was left to console himself with a £1.2 million pay off while Hugh Blakeway Webb, a non-executive director since 1990, took over as executive chairman. While the City had never really warmed to Mr Maxmin, it was nervous about this latest development. Mr Blakeway Webb was known to be close to Sir Bernard Ashley, the former chairman, having advised the family on tax since the early 1980s. Many felt that it was a victory for the old guard.

There was certainly a change of approach. Whereas Mr Maxmin had preached about the globalisation of the Laura Ashley brand, the new players talked about cutting overheads and reducing costs. The group was clearly entering a new era, though what that holds is still open to question. With the share price still languishing at 75p, Laura Ashley is vulnerable to outside predators. In spite of the troubles of the past ten years, it remains a strong international brand.

Faith in its future is clouded by the absence of a chief executive and the current management's aversion to appointing one in the near future. Mr Blakeway Webb insists a new man at the helm would hinder, rather than accelerate, recovery. Laura Ashley shareholders hope he is right. They have been waiting for more than five years for that particular piece of good news.

Blakeway Webb: change

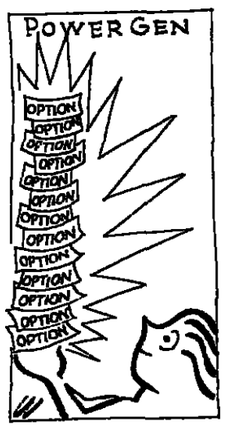
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Accountant's cold knight

JOHN STUTTARD, recently appointed chairman and chief executive of Coopers & Lybrand China and 50 yesterday, is no dry, humourless accountant. For the past decade, he has been dedicated to Finnish affairs, and yesterday his efforts were recognised when he was awarded the *Order of the Lion of Finland*, Knight First Class, by the Finnish Ambassador in London. In his time, Stuttard has panned for gold in Lapland, taken part in the Finlandia cross-country skiing marathon, and held business meetings in saunas. He will go to extraordinary lengths to serve his firm's best interests. At yesterday's ceremony he told of his first meeting with teetotaller Heikki Salonen, president of trading conglomerate Amer, which was London stock market bound. "It was decided that the only place he could talk freely about the group's long-term strategy was outside the executive sauna on the roof of the tobacco factory at Tuusala. So there, in the depths of winter, on the roof, we rolled naked in the snow while Salonen's employees made cigarettes in the factory below." Yesterday, Stuttard was dressed, and behaved, as a gentleman accountant at Coopers & Lybrand should — and he didn't once roll on the Ambassador's carpet.

Self evident

CANDIDATE for truism of the week from the Research Board of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. "Ultimately," writes Professor Richard Macve "what developments are most useful is an empirical question".



Club call

ARE you now a successful City type, content with your Pall Mall club? Did you ever live in Notting Hill, and once were proud to describe yourself as Bohemian? Want to recall those days? If so, then reach for the prospectus for The Cobden Club which is raising up to £750,000 at £1 a share under the Enterprise Investment Scheme to put life back into the old Cobden Working Men's Club & Institute in Kensal Road, London — "set up by Lord William Cobden in 1882 as part of the Fabian movement to educate the working classes". After refurbishment, the premises will include a 50-seat restaurant, bars, and a 1,500 sq ft entertainments room. Barclays Bank, for one has expressed an interest — and is seemingly not ashamed to be associated with a club whose membership once included certain unsavoury types. Ledger minutes from 1884 note that "while a certain member was dismissed for appropriating a copy of *The Times*, another was merely reprimanded for discharging a flintlock in the club". Subscription lists open tomorrow, and close on March 14.

Brolly good

THE Meridien Hotel, Brussels, part of the Forte empire, has learnt something useful from Europe's recent floods. An umbrella is now *de rigueur* in all guest rooms.

COLIN CAMPBELL

BUSINESS LETTERS

Putting a price on abandoned offshore platforms

From Mr Mike Corcoran

Sir, I would like to comment on the point of abandonment costs raised in Mr Mortished's article on platform abandonment (January 27). The quoted total abandonment cost of £7 billion in today's money is very tight. The contracting industry has undertaken its own estimate of such liabilities to nearer £3.3 billion to £4.6 billion in today's money. These estimates have been prepared on the basis of many years of experience in removing such structures from many parts of the world. For example, more than 700 platforms have been removed, to date, from the Gulf of Mexico.

Whether this total cost is "huge" is relative, and should be compared with the estimated capital expenditure on new facilities in 1994 of around £4.7 billion and projected expenditures between 1995 to 1998 of £21.7 billion. We are, however, all aware of the implications of increasing abandonment liabilities on the offshore industry, particularly amidst an environment of squeezed upstream margins on operations. To resolve this impasse, a consortium of contracts and financial institutions has been working to develop a forward contracting initiative, by which abandonment costs are fixed ahead of filed shut-down. The effects of early production shut-in, costs over-runs and contractor default are covered by insurance instruments and ring-fenced payments terms.

By this means, much of the price uncertainty addressed in the article is removed, whilst protecting timing flexibility.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE CORCORAN,
Consultant: Decommissioning and Salvage Operations,
149 Brondesbury Park,
NW2.

Rate rises fail to reach those in credit

From Mr Gordon Hanson

Sir, After the latest increase in the bank rate, the usual crop of tombstone advertisements appear from most of the joint stock banks advising of the increase in their own base rates to a similar figure.

Why do the banks totally overlook those many thousands of their customers who maintain cleared credit balances on their current accounts?

Over the last six months, base rates have increased by a full 1.5 per cent. In the same period, the NatWest has been pleased to reward my current account credit balance with an unchanged interest of 0.25 per cent — presumably the additional 1.5 per cent earned on my credit balances has gone directly to the bottom line of their P&L account.

Is this not plain undiluted usury? And should not the Office of Fair Trading be asked to comment?

Yours faithfully,
GORDON HANSON,
4 West Street,
Abbotsbury, Dorset.

Letters can be faxed to 0171-782 5112.

Fall and fall of Pentos . . . and a credit solution to suppliers of Athena

From Mr Anthony Stone

Sir, At Dillon's bookstore in the Strand I purchased a copy of Terry Maher's revealing account of the rise and, latterly, fall of the Pentos enterprise, of which he is the ousted founder and to which Dillon's now belongs.

It is a trifle amusing to speculate that the 68 per cent discount at which Mr Maher's tome is being offered for sale may be some reflection of the esteem in which he is held by the current Pentos board.

More remarkable, however, is the precise correlation between the price reduction for the book and the loss in the value of Pentos shares since I purchased a number of them two years ago.

Can your readers provide any similar examples of this variant on the "cost-benefit analysis" theme?

Yours faithfully
ANTHONY STONE,
Tudor House,
17 Leicester Road,
Branksome Park,
Poole, Dorset.

From Mr James Larkin

Sir, In an otherwise excellent article, Trevor Brown ignores one obvious solution to the problems of suppliers to Athena. These unfortunate companies could have credit insured their turnover, including sales to Athena, and it would now be the credit insurers who were suffering the loss rather than the suppliers.

Most plcs are very reluctant to give guarantees on behalf of their subsidiaries, and, in many circumstances, credit insurers, with their knowledge of the market and trade, may be willing to insure 80 per cent or more of the risk. The supplier, of course, has to bear the cost of the credit insurance, but the premium is small relative to the loss that could be suffered by an unsecured creditor.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES A. LARKIN,
Chairman,
Credit Insurance Group,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street,
WC1.

Phantom route to riches

From Mr David Ogden

Sir, I was surprised to see phantom share options described as "a new route to riches" in your article of January 26, entitled "For the man with everything — phantom shares".

Phantom options have long had a place in the remuneration package for executives in the UK, although these have not been as popular as real share options.

This is because, when an executive exercises a phantom share option, he takes cash out of the business and profits are then reduced. On the exercise of real share options, cash comes into the business when the shares are allotted and there is no reduction in company profits.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID OGDEN,
Share Plans Director,
Sedgwick Noble Lowndes,
PO Box 144,
Norfolk House,
Wellesley Road,
Croydon,
Surrey.

Freud and the status of certified accountants

From S. Sherwood

Sir, Anthea Rose, chief executive of The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, writes to you (February 2) to correct what she sees as the misconception about the rightful place of her body in the hierarchy of accountants. Methinks she does protest too much. If Certified Accountants really are so "distinguished", why do they simply not call themselves "The Association of Certified Accountants" and not blazon forth the sacred word "chartered".

Do they feel inferior, or do they hope simply to confuse the public in the hope that they will in fact be thought of as "Chartered Accountants"?

Perhaps Freud has something to say on the subject!

Yours faithfully,
S. SHERWOOD,
33 Gwendolen Avenue,
Putney.

Against the tide

From Mr Keith Foster

Sir, Pennington (February 2) reported correctly that Lord Hanson defended the decision, made by the board, that Hanson would continue to make donations to the Tory Party.

However, according to my notes, he was more positive than was reported, in saying that (in his opinion) British industry needs to support the Tory Party as it is the party for the creation of wealth rather than one for the spending of wealth.

Furthermore, Pennington ends: "But now he appears to be swimming against the tide."

Again, according to my recollections, following Lord Hanson's statement there was spontaneous, loud and sustained applause from the large number of people who attended the meeting.

In view of this reaction, might it not be Pennington who is swimming in the wrong direction?

Yours faithfully,
KEITH FOSTER,
Ash House,
Hog Lane,
Ashley Green,
Chesham,
Buckinghamshire.

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Income Plus 103.50 110.10 +0.40 4.33
Amer Eq Inc 45.57 48.24# +1.06 2.12
European Income 40.77 43.35 +0.50 1.78
Far East Inc 56.24 63.08 -0.91 2.09
Global Convertible 21.48 22.92 +0.07 3.78
UK Div Gth 23.04 24.50 +0.09 1.92
Equity Funds
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Amer Spec Sits 109.80 117.20 +1.90 ...
Japan Smaller Cos 37.01 39.50 -0.38 ...
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European Opps 60.67 64.51 +0.77 ...
Global Priv 23.42 24.94 +0.32 1.06
UK Growth 85.02 90.40 +0.31 ...
Growth & Inc 133.50 142.00# +1.40 2.46
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Japan Spec Sits 89.20 95.00# +1.02 ...
Japan 151.50 159.50 +1.80 ...
Managed Intl 257.50 274.00 +5.00 ...
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Recovery 44.68 47.51 -0.03 ...
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Special Sits 480.70 511.30 +11.50 ...
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Cap Profile 132.60 135.60# +1.20 0.77
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Growth Inc 28.43 29.04 +0.29 1.86
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High Inc Eqty 44.28 47.09 +0.11 3.47
-do- Inc 1st Inc 69.05 72.61 +0.41 4.39
Intl Growth 63.63 66.61 ... 1.54
Investment Trust 81.61 85.81 +0.63 ...
UK Smaller Cos 74.48 79.32# +0.29 1.02

FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
071 374 4100
American Growth 54.55 58.41 +1.23 ...
(Accum Units) 54.55 58.41 +1.23 ...
Amer Smlr Cos 456.50 489.20 +9.90 ...
(Accum Units) 456.40 498.90 -9.70 ...
Capital Tst 291.30 309.80 +0.20 1.61
(Accum Units) 416.10 447.50 +0.40 1.61
Cont Smlr Cos 56.95 61.17 +0.68 0.50
(Accum Units) 59.89 64.28 +0.71 0.50
Convertible 120.30 127.90# -0.20 5.81
(Accum Units) 243.00 258.50# -0.30 5.87
Emerging Markets 67.50 72.11 +2.38 ...
(Accum Units) 67.56 72.17 +2.38 ...
European 113.60 120.90 +1.90 0.14
(Accum Units) 119.20 126.70 +2.00 0.14
Extra Income 309.50 323.20# -1.40 4.08
(Accum Units) 465.00 494.50# -2.10 4.08
Financial 116.70 125.40 +2.30 0.30
(Accum Units) 122.90 132.10 +2.40 0.30
Gilt Trust 60.72 62.61 -0.19 6.37
(Accum Units) 84.79 87.44 -0.26 6.37
Health Fund Inc 130.00 138.80 +2.80 ...
(Accum Units) 130.00 138.80 +2.80 ...
Income & Growth 177.00 188.30 +1.10 3.32
(Accum Units) 307.30 324.30 +1.70 3.32
Intl Growth 341.70 366.10 +5.40 ...
(Accum Units) 379.40 406.50 +6.00 ...
Japan & Gen 165.80 177.10 +2.40 ...
(Accum Units) 167.30 178.90 +2.40 ...
Managed Port Inc 98.90 104.10 +0.80 1.47
(Accum Units) 104.80 110.30 +0.80 1.47
Quarterly Income 49.95 53.17 +0.20 4.77
(Accum Units) 53.18 56.54 +0.20 4.77
Recovery 323.30 345.70# +3.10 0.13
(Accum Units) 380.60 406.90# +3.60 0.13
UK Growth 50.62 54.05 +0.33 2.79
(Accum Units) 52.36 55.95 +0.35 2.79

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing: 0845 681330 Enqs: 0845 681340
FP Am Smlr Cos 109.40 117.00 +2.60 0.0
FP Asian Growth 242.30 259.80 +15.50 0.0
FP Equity Dist 358.40 381.20 +1.20 2.82
-do- Accum 758.80 805.10 +2.50 2.82
FP Bond Gilt Dist 138.50 147.30# +0.90 7.45
-do- Accum 144.40 153.60# +2.10 0.35
FP Fixed Int Dist 126.50 135.70 -0.10 7.45
-do- Accum 235.50 248.80 -0.20 7.45
FP Intl Gth Dist 87.22 92.78 +1.64 0.65
-do- Accum 91.32 97.14 +1.71 0.65
FP Nth Amer Dist 181.30 192.90# -4.40 1.22
-do- Accum 199.80 211.80# +4.90 1.22
FP Pac Basin Dist 291.30 309.60# +8.30 0.19
-do- Accum 297.30 318.10# +8.50 0.19
FP Income 50.39 53.74 +0.29 4.28
(Accum Units) 163.10 173.90 +0.90 4.28
FP Jap Smlr Cos 336.40 357.70 +2.60 0.0
FP Monthly Dist 67.27 71.79# +0.39 6.18
FP Stg Deposit 100.60 105.40# ... ...
FP Tokyo 82.59 88.09 +1.32 0.0
FP UK Focus 33.92 36.47 +0.24 2.13
FP UK Growth 161.70 172.40# +2.40 2.79
FP Vision 313.00 333.60# +4.70 2.79
Securitiflex Dist 307.70 327.30 +0.50 2.08
-do- Accum 376.30 400.30 +0.60 2.08
Sterlcfix Inc Dist 67.21 71.50# ... 3.87
-do- Accum 87.19 92.75# ... 3.87
Y Ant Stdby Dist 92.29 98.11# +1.27 0.80
-do- Accum 97.95 104.20# +1.30 0.80
FP Managed Portfolio Service
Capital Gwth Acc 101.40 107.80 +0.30 0.93
Open Cap Gth Acc 103.40 110.00 +0.40 0.30
Cap Gth Inc Acc 97.67 103.90 +0.20 1.80
Cap Gth Inc Acc 100.10 106.40 +0.20 1.80
Opn Cp Gth Inc 99.83 106.20 ... 1.85
Opn Cp Gth Inc Ac 102.50 109.00 ... 1.85
M&G Unit Trusts.
American 44.26 47.08 +1.06 1.17
Australian 301.80 323.60 +4.30 0.0
Conglomerate
European 195.30 207.70 -3.40 0.79
(Accum Units) 211.20 224.60 -3.60 0.79
Gilt & Fi 54.43 57.56 -0.07 6.56
Gold 44.51 47.86 +0.09 0.0
Intnl 30.59 32.64 -0.04 0.50
(Accum Units) 44.36 47.34 +1.22 0.50
Smaller Cos 28.75 30.51 -0.60 1.25

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 1067
GABRA 221.30 234.00 +0.80 2.70
Cash 49.30 50.04# +0.02 4.90
Growth Portfolio 72.71 77.07 +1.31 1.65
Income Portfolio 60.74 64.23# +0.71 4.58

GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD
071 236 6441
Special Sits 165.10 176.60 +1.20 1.59
Dividend 78.54 84.07 -0.48 4.11
Int Gth & Inc 202.50 216.80# +1.20 3.21
UK & Gen 41.75 44.65 -0.01 2.43
Fund of Funds 59.33 63.45 +0.31 ...

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 8431
Amer Spec Sits 174.00 186.10
European 533.00 568.70 0.48
Far East & Gen 234.90 251.30
Germany 111.70 118.30
Income Inc 143.50 153.50 4.72
(Accum Units) 151.90 162.50 4.72
International 304.70 325.90 0.21
Intl Income 74.69 79.26 4.28
Japan & General 370.60 394.20
Korean Securities 59.95 64.12
Smlr Cos Inc Inc 42.61 45.79# 5.24
UK Capital Inc 154.60 165.60# 1.40
UK Capital Acc 270.60 289.50 1.40
UK Spec Sits 78.01 83.44 0.74
US & General 127.30 135.50 ...
Wrldw Spec Sits 139.60 149.30 ...

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 364 421
UK Growth Funds
British Growth 44.07 47.19# +0.45 2.52
Cash Trust 136.39 136.39# +0.06 5.36
Practical Inv Inc # 108.76 116.34 +0.54 3.53
(Accum Units) # 247.33 264.52 +1.15 3.53
UK Index 138.30 141.77 +1.25 3.46
UK Smaller Cos 116.82 124.94 +3.66 1.07
Income Funds
Preference Share 25.00 26.74# +0.05 3.24
High Income 31.20 33.37# +0.16 6.36
UK Equity Income 128.71 135.52# +0.82 3.79
Global Bond 27.88 28.69 -0.36 5.37
International Funds
Emerging Markets 46.53 49.77 +1.56 0.16
Global Inc & Gth 126.31 134.59 +2.46 2.26
Gold & Intl Res 101.10 108.13 +1.93 0.06
Global Utilities 124.36 133.42# +2.45 1.25
Overseas Funds
American 138.19 147.42 +3.28 1.21
European 97.20 103.09 +1.37 1.03
Euro Sel Opps 139.46 148.31 +2.79 ...
Amer Emerging 95.68 102.33 +2.43 ...
Hong Kong 123.44 132.43 +8.74 1.89
Japan 231.85 246.12 +3.13 ...
Pacific Growth 188.98 213.24 +9.31 1.54
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds
Managed Equity 202.14 202.14# +1.76 2.14
Long Term Bal 221.68 221.68# +2.26 3.12
Med Term Bal 186.76 186.76# -1.08 3.73
UK Equity 227.32 227.32 +1.25 2.57
UK Emerging Cos 132.23 132.23 -0.27 2.33
American 229.23 229.23 +5.95 1.52
Japan 121.10 121.10 +1.88 ...
European 251.85 251.85 +4.45 1.10
Inner Limited Gth 164.48 164.48 +0.14 3.68
Fixed Interest 152.73 152.73 -0.07 6.91
Amer Emergnc 244.75 244.75 +5.16 0.20
Pacific 215.07 215.07 +8.49 1.00
Emerging Mkts 129.73 129.73# +1.78 0.95
Index Tracf Japan 148.98 148.98# +2.14 0.27
-do- Pacific Rim 167.57 167.57# +2.45 1.43
-do- Cont Europe 144.54 144.54# +2.45 1.78
Index Track USA 131.19 131.19# +3.44 2.34
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds
Managed Equity 99.49 101.59 +0.88 ...
Med Term Bal 89.93 95.67 +0.61 ...
Long Term Bal 99.79 106.16 +1.08 ...
UK Equity 105.13 111.84 +0.67 ...
UK Emerging Cos 61.59 65.85 -0.13 ...
American 106.29 113.07 +0.23 ...
Japan 56.19 61.88 +0.95 ...
European 104.94 111.64 +1.98 ...
Fixed Interest 77.34 82.78 -0.06 ...
Index Linked Gth 73.04 77.70 +0.06 ...
Deposit 80.01 85.12 +0.03 ...
Broker Unit Trusts
Berkeley Int Gth 110.60 117.70# +0.70 ...
Berkeley Income # 105.20 111.30# +0.10 2.04
BWH Intl 130.00 136.84 +0.71 0.62
Bridge Gth Port Inc 57.59 60.78 +0.29 3.45
-do- Inc Port Inc 53.65 56.62# +0.16 3.40
-do- Wrwide Port 50.27 53.06 +0.36 0.10
Show Utilities 55.51 58.59 +0.28 2.92

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
GAM Starting Management 071 493 9980
& intl Inc 514.86 547.72# 1.54
(Accum Units) 572.63 609.18 1.54
European Inc 134.21 142.70# 0.86
Amalgamo Inc 135.62 143.98
N America Inc 313.38 332.98
Far East Inc 305.66 325.17
(Accum Units) 316.57 336.76
UK Dedi Inc 167.25 177.93# 1.41

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD
071 377 7879 Dealing: 071 407 7880
UK Equity Inc 83.53 87.95 +0.37 4.71
UK Small Cos 45.43 48.65 -0.05 1.01
British Growth 50.73 53.59 +0.22 2.57
American Gwth 156.59 167.57# -3.05 ...
Japan Gwth 71.53 76.50# +0.23 ...
Greater China 175.25 187.43 +5.58 ...
Pacific Strategy 190.19 198.62# +3.05 ...
European Gwth 82.58 88.26 +0.93 0.29
Intl Growth 136.00 145.46 +2.50 ...
US Index (X) 13.40 14.12 +0.03 4.00
FT-SE Mid 250 Int 70.07 74.19 +0.10 2.28
Monthly Income 35.66 38.02# +0.18 8.00
GRI Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033
Grt Gth Inter (C) 9.78 10.31 +0.09 3.60

GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
071 623 1212
Small Cos 84.09 89.46# ... 1.71

GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD
071 538 8688
Cash 137.90 137.90 ... 5.29
European 467.20 499.10 +6.50 0.15
Gilt & Fixed 124.80 132.58 ... 5.67
Growth Equity 325.80 335.70 +1.00 2.10
Income Trust 172.50 180.80 +0.40 3.16
International 172.30 184.00 +3.40 ...
Japan Trust 123.30 131.80# +2.20 ...
Nth American 252.30 269.50 +5.40 0.21
Pacific 508.00 542.20 +18.80 ...
Guardhill 458.90 489.70 +2.00 2.05

GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD
071 522 2129
EMU Trust 99.49 103.23 +0.60 6.55
Global High Inc 97.46 101.11# +1.22 6.62
Prem Fixed Int 99.91 103.72 -0.21 8.37
Gdy & Bond Inc 97.28 103.44# -0.38 5.20
European Growth 97.82 104.01 +1.63 ...
Intl PEP Trust 98.72 99.31 +0.91 ...
High Income 112.30 119.40# -1.13 4.25
-do- Accum 154.49 164.26 -1.56 4.25
Recovery 351.00 372.20 +0.40 1.66
(Accum Units) 482.90 426.40 +0.40 1.66
St Vinc High Inc 120.41 122.21 +0.45 7.17

Equities marked higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380	Abbey Nat	495	- 6	4.6	14.3
314	230	Allied Irish	266	+ 2	4.7	10.2
278	171	Am New Z	214	+ 4	5.6	*
3900	2462	Bank America	2931	+137		
247	172	Bank Scotland	203	- 4	3.3	11.4
646	487	Barclays	592	+ 1	3.5	14.5
319	246	Bk of Ireland	308		4.7	8.9
2912	2262	Citicorp	2756	+168		
265	203	Close Bros	253		4.2	19.1
1590	1121	Commerzbk	1389	-28	6.1	
394	293	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1140	+ 9	0.5	
1315	734	Deutsche Bk	1290	-128	2.4	
90	57	Fuji Bank Y	78	+ 3	5.0	3.6
1549	1152	Fuji Bank Y	1387	+10	0.4	*
473	339	Hambros	438	+ 1	7.3	14.6
713	587	HSBC	671	+ 10	4.8	9.7
1133	578	HSBC HK	665	+ 21	4.6	9.6
443	393	Joseph (L)	393		5.6	11.4
699	434	Kleinwort Ben	620	+ 2	3.9	10.9
660	519	Lloyds	545	- 5	5.3	10.7
630	472	Nat Aust Bk	518	+ 15	5.8	*
622	421	Nat West	488	+ 7	5.8	9.5
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150			
79	53	Rea Bros	64		1.9	17.9
538	373	Rbl Bk Scotl	382	- 6	4.4	11.7
1574	1050	Schroders	1473	- 12	1.6	13.5
1458	1043	Schroders NV	1323	- 12	1.7	12.1
114	75	Singer & Fried	85		4.6	10.9
359	223	Standard Chart	265	+ 1	3.0	8.1
291	197	TSB	247	- 4	4.1	*
1011	588	Westpac BK	748	- 13	3.7	13.7
2105	1612	Wolfs Fargo Y	1925	+300	3.0	
350	194	Westpac	230	- 3	2.4	
390	203	Winnings	228		5.9	15.0

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	150	Ascot Hldgs	154			
619	465	Bass	540	+ 2	4.9	13.3
298	246	Bodmington	246	+ 1	4.2	13.3
196	168	Burtonwd Brew	174		3.7	14.5
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	169	- 1	3.0	20.5
86	46	Fockers Brewing	55	+ 1	5.5	*
463	343	Full Sh 'A'	360		2.7	14.9
511	389	Greenalls Gdyl	432		3.9	21.4
584	452	Greene King	520		3.2	14.1
267	239	Hardy Hansmt	262	+ 4	4.5	*
170	135	Heavitree	150		3.8	*
3773	3125	Holt J	3363			
248	195	Mansfield	248	+ 1	2.3	15.2
314	256	Morlan Thmp	302		2.5	14.7
545	440	Morland	458	- 2	2.8	13.8
10½	6½	Paramount	7		3.6	6.5
329	209	Regent Inns	326	- 1	2.1	25.0
1665	1000	SA Breweries	1481	+50	2.8	22.9
591	417	Scott & Nwnll	509	+ 1	4.3	14.6
306	215	Vaux Group	226	- 3	5.1	12.9
491	324	Wetherspoon JD	471	+ 4	1.8	25.9
617	494	Whitbread	564	- 2	4.2	15.4
589	493	Wolverhmptn D	504	+ 3	3.4	13.3
208	148	Yates Brewr	196		2.4	15.4
535	458	Young 'A'	458		4.1	19.4

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	130	Abbeyfr	130		5.0	9.5
200	143	Allen	145	+ 2	4.8	13.6
164	61	Amec	67		5.5	38.7
165	47	Ardrews Sytes	165	+ 13		
462	333	Arnhold	420		1.8	26.6
191	97½	Ashtead	107½	- 1½	5.6	11.4
41	26	Bailey (Ben) Con	35		3.5	21.4
88	18½	Barcom	45			
292	139	Barratt Devs	171	+ 2	4.4	13.3
169	122	Beazer Homes	136		5.0	10.6
304	179	Bellway	186		4.7	11.9
59	31	Bethmont	38			3.7
573	326	Berkeley Gpt	326	- 4	2.8	10.4
215	118	Best Bros	176		3.2	5.5
355	210	Bovis (Henry)	225		2.1	11.1
104	35	Brandon Hire	104	+ 1	1.8	
235	135	Br Dwg & Eng	135		7.4	8.4
197½	110	Bryan	110	- 1	5.7	12.4
145½	98	CALA	100	+ 1	3.5	13.8
54	31	Campbt & Aus	33			
62	44	Clarke T	52		3.0	44.1
42	17½	Costain	22½	- 1		
185	103	Countryside	104		5.2	12.8
120	73	Crest Nicholson	80		2.5	14.6
42	30	Cussins	32		4.6	11.1
30	17	Edmond Hldgs	18		2.1	
473	238	Eng Groupt	243	+ 3	5.7	99
60	24	Galliford	28		4.5	
112	87	Gibbs & Dandy	88		3.8	
1026	820	Glynton (MJ)	863		2.1	14.6
96	71	Green (Eric)	84		8.9	25.9
197	121	Havelock Eurp	197		1.9	18.0
168	138	Hawtse-Stuart	148	+ 2	2.5	17.0
144	85	Higgs & Hill	85		5.3	17.7
32	19	Howard Hldgs	19			
25	6	Jarvis	9			
138	104	Keller	106		4.4	12.3
488	391	Laing (J)	402		5.6	18.3
164	90½	Laing S.4% Cv Pf	91½		8.7	
145	115	Lon Chyrsdelrt	117		5.7	
173	48	Lovell (Y.J)	50		2.6	6.0
253	198	Marshalls (J)	207		3.3	12.4
391	154	McAlpine (A)	165	- 1	5.0	23.9
78½	50½	McCarthy & S	54			
64	56	Morgan Sindall	56	- 1	4.2	
186½	94	Morrison (J)	97		2.6	
379½	172	Persimmon	172	- 1	6.7	12.9
2400	1450	Pochin	2310		1.7	23.2
198	116	Prowting	116		3.9	17.7
118	46½	Raine Ind	50½		7.4	10.5
61	45	Secure Retirm	46			14.9
132	93	Redrow	98		3.4	9.7
67	50	Sheffd Ftrs	56		1.6	27.3
386	233	Shend Hldgst	360		1.8	16.2
114	62½	Simco	104	- 6	4.4	14.8
245	195	Smart (J)	205		5.2	21.5
280	155	Spandex	258		1.2	38.8
257	151	Tay Homes	173		4.7	12.7
163	114½	Taylor Woodrw	127½		1.7	31.1
700	535	Tilbury (Douglas)	535		2.9	41.0
63	36	Torex (Hldgs)	59		2.9	20.7
40½	19	Try Group	19		3.3	
129	90	Wimpey Gpt	108		4.4	19.0
170	111	Walkinshaw	112		5.5	12.1
74	49	West Hldgs	53		1.2	
225½	127	Westbury	139		5.3	11.8
7½	3½	Wiggins	5			
258	145	Wilson (C)	145	- 3	3.6	12.1
571	311	Wilson Bowden	314	+ 2	3.8	14.0
249	113	Wimpey S	124	+ 2	5.3	18.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Albright&wil	14		4.5	23.5
341	283	Alumasc	340		2.2	*
65½	43½	Amberley Gpt	51		3.1	26.2
363	274	BPB Ind	321	+ 3	3.3	16.6
142	93	Braggnsde Brkt	123		3.2	12.7
80	30	Burdon	33		7.6	
38	28	Bucklays	29		1.8	
391	262	Blue Circle	282	+ 5	5.0	20.0
66	72	Brendon PLC	77		7.5	22.8
154	128	Br Dredging	135		6.2	16.2
400	321	CRH	370	+ 10	2.6	18.8
70	31	Chesterwd Rby	41		4.4	
278	198	Cape	210		6.5	13.3
455	224	Caradon	246	+ 3	4.8	16.9
215½	114	Cavendish pl	119½	+ 1½	1.6	
67	46	Chesthm Gp	54		6.1	10.8
134	89	Dyson (J&J)rt	107	- 1½	4.1	16.1
97	64	Dyson 'A'r	64	- ½	6.8	9.6
13½	4½	Expose Blinds	12			
350	273	Epwin	282	+ 1	3.5	16.7
63	57	Ecc	62		2.8	34.9
218	160	Graham Gp	176		3.3	16.8
369	321	Hartstaind (J)	321	- 5	2.9	14.8
511	282	Hepworth	285		3.3	16.8
88	46	Heuston	83		5.3	14.3
152½	82½	Hewdn (J).A	90		2.4	
255	147	Heyrod Wkn	255	+ 1	6.6	14.4
100	67	Ibstock	80		1.6	
294	149	Johnson	269		2.1	32.3
176	94	Lindsell	95		6.2	10.0
213½	124	Marley	130	- 1	4.0	15.4
156	124	Marshalls†	127	+ 1	4.4	11.3
568	325	Meyer Ind	348	+ 5	3.8	13.6
196	146	Newman Tbks	161	- 5	5.0	20.3
210½	88	Norcrest	96		8.9	16.7
20	9	Phoenix Timber	13			
208	143	Pilkington†	148		3.4	28.5
185	125	Polypipe	135		3.8	18.4
1079	805	RMC Gp	938	+ 4	2.9	18.4
40	13	Ramrs	13			
640	415	Redland	429½	+ 7	7.3	19.9
109	70	Rexel	109		3.3	12.4
185½	102½	Rugby Group	113	+ 1	3.8	15.7
69	50	Russell (A)	60		3.2	18.3
268	222	SIG	236		2.9	13.2
21	16	SWP	18½		1.4	25.7
200	155	Sharpe & Fisher	178		1.8	12.9
81½	36	Spring Ram	40	+ 1	1.6	
208	107	Tarmac	115		6.0	4.3
220	157	Tilcon†	157		3.8	12.6
370	274	Travis Perkins	286		3.6	17.6
36	21	Tudor	25		1.2	
54	30	Umgroup	36			
63	33	Waterhouse	43			
129	83	Wickes	94		1.7	21.1
975	705	Wolseley	789	+ 14	2.6	15.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3½	1½	Anglo Ltd	1½			
110	68	App Holo	70			
165	107	Abwoods	118		5.3	
11	6½	Bailey (CH)	6½			
49	30	Black Arrow	42		9.2	6.7
124	70	Br. Bloodstock	81			72.7
13	5½	Caird Gp	5½			16.0
10½	4½	Charnwd	6		2.1	*
157	109	Cleaver	147		6.8	9.8
237	188	Flotas	215		1.2	18.5
50	28	Headway	42		2.1	32.7
295	234	Hunstnck†	268		5.9	15.3
248	156	Lebon	230		3.4	14.9
274	214	Nabo Gpt	221	+ 6	2.7	21.4
310	207	Photo-Mat†	300			20
60	38	Pont & Gen	56			
11½	2½	Porm Group	4½			
31½	5½	Rotkne	10			
120	75	Shanks & McEwan	80		5.2	13.2
244	170	Sinclair (WH)	171			15.4
700	350	Waste Mgt Ind	407	+ 8		

CHEMICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	115	Allied Colloids†	118	- 1	2.5	16.7
798	755	Amber Ind	780		3.4	15.5
£140½	£108½	BASF Dkf	£137½	+367½	3.5	
767	627	BOC	718	+ 5	4.3	26.5
373	276	BTP†	377		4.5	15.7
£160½	£125½	Bayer DM50	£150½	+450	3.1	
131	98	Brent Chemc	107		4.7	
389	215	Br Vita	218		4.3	16.2
46	18	Campbelltn Sn	31	+ 1		
199	153	Cantrend (W)	187		4.9	37.6
580	401	Courtaulds	417	+ 1	4.1	16.1
389	327	Croda	364	- 1	3.0	12.1
143	95	Doeller	136		4.5	12.9
68½	35½	Euro Colour	66		2.6	18.1
149	110	Gribbon(F)	118		3.8	10.9
223	108	Hickson	127	+ 2	7.9	11.4
£153½	£108½	Hoechst	£136½	-115½	2.6	
257	157½	Holliday Chem	208		2.6	17.0
861	727	ICI	738	- 8	4.7	59.8
101½	97½	Inbev	101½	- 1	5.4	9.6
843	640	Laporte	670	+ 12	4.0	17.0
95	48	MTM	50		0.8	
405	290	Manders	315		4.1	14.8
127	100	McKand Russel	91		6.7	12.6
38	25	Meridec	45½	+ 1½	7.1	8.2
679½	458½	Monsanto	500		4.4	20.7
349	265	Ponder	194½	+ 1½	3.8	15.8
272	186	Scapa	28	- 1	3.1	16.5
66	28	Smallbn Speld	77½	+ 3½	0.8	14.3
652½	656	Tatedo Chem	323		6.5	18.1
497	325	Wardle Storeys	187		3.5	18.1
230	186	Wntngtn Hdg	175		3.1	16.2
833	570	Wolfnbrm R	369		2.8	15.8
483	345	Yorks Chem	257	- 2	3.2	19.5
336	257	Yule Catto				

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	98	Alb Lea	98		5.1	11.4
317	248	Acu	300		2.8	16.7
595	532	Allgm & Hanrey	565		3.3	7.6
31	20	Alexanders	30		3.1	18.8
175	106	Appleyard	108	- 1	6.8	18.7
6	3½	Arb Br Eng	4½		1.4	32.1
578	495	BOS Group	520		4.4	18.1
25½	17	Brewing Powerr	23		5.4	11.8
405	349	Bibsbury Mbrt	353		5.2	10.4
43	23	Bogod 'A'	28		3.1	11.8
370	288	Bowater	347		4.7	19.3
31	15	Bridgend Gp	15		1.7	78.0
99	78	Bw Flatings	85		3.0	
71	48	Brown & Tawse	43			
57	35	Burndanrt	37		6.5	
465	245	Calgrnc	260		5.5	42.7
59	19½	Cashel Pm	28½		6.7	11.4
130	78	Coastal Mkt	78		4.7	*
51	32½	Cash (DC)	40		3.6	12.3
342½	197½	Cowie	225		5.1	11.2
192½	127	Dag Mstrng	138		5.9	15.8
653	446	Dismdms Ert	585		3.4	14.5
628	414½	Dojkona	440	+ 2	3.8	15.4
589	443	Electrocomptds	462	+ 3	2.7	18.7
175	138	Electron Houses	160		2.7	13.7
267	225	Elec & Eyeswrh	252	- 1	3.9	16.7
234	201	Evendbdr	201		5.3	15.7
173	103	Evrgreen Mn	104		5.4	11.3
509½	387	Exprs Hstchnn	387		4.7	12.0
556	490½	Farnell Elect	550	+ 3	6.8	22.8
78	58	Fife Indmar	55		6.2	9.1
42	15	Gardner	20½	+ 1½	5.0	*
45	19	Glanchorton	21½			23.7
90	59	Gowings	71		3.5	21.5
75	59	Hallam Hldgs	67	- 1		52.3
172	122	Harris (Philip)	160	- 1	5.1	14.8
342½	289	Hawtys	299	- 2	3.6	13.8
191	88	Holdens Tech	97		7.7	10.5
139	106	SA Ind	118		2.0	13.2
609	299	Inchcape	309	- 1	6.1	10.3
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58			13.4
184	145	Fash-Fa	151		3.3	17.3
573	291	Lex Service	290	- ½	5.7	11.2
252	162	Lookers	179		5.4	
20	14	Malaya Grp	14½		2.2	
9	3½	Manbetsfr 10	6½			
440	279	Nortrsm	402	- 1	0.7	17.9
100	47	Nottingham	91		1.0	38.6
175	152	PCI	152		8.1	14.7
310	231	Pentlnggns	231	- 3	4.1	16.2
398	131	Pery Gp	231	- 2	6.7	17.2
218	126	Quench Crwd	128		5.2	12.1
166	97	REA	165		4.5	34.1
5½	2½	Reecr	5½			
24	4	Ross Co	5		5.0	
42	32½	SFP Ind	40½	+ ½	3.3	*
44	31	TLS Range	42		3.0	16.9
265	215	Tone Products	237		4.8	15.3
221	151	Vaude (Rep)	168		3.6	21.0
335	240	Wholesale Figs	243		6.1	21.8
30½	13½	Wills Gp	15½		4.0	8.7
74½	39½	Wilcnsn	59½		1.2	23.4
69	40	Wylex	54		5.1	27.8
96	61	Young (H)	80	+ 1	5.6	15.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Adwest	152	+ 1	6.2	15.5
380	199½	Aeeslagzts	318		1.4	25.7
62	47	Amour	47½		4.7	9.9
997	773½	Bunzl Hldg	871	- 13	2.4	18.1
401	273	BTR	304		5.1	16.0
570	372	BMT	449	+ 1	5.8	11.7
270½	120½	Berisford Intl†	135	- 1	0.3	62.2
91	49	Bldn Ltd	63	- 1	4.5	15.4
57½	44	Brentry Inv	48	+ 1	9.0	*
836	636½	Charter	769		3.7	22.6
265	215	Cookson	215		3.7	19.8
302	217½	Hanson	235½	- ½	6.4	16.2
220	136	Harrisn Crstld	137	+ 1	8.2	15.6
365½	200½	Hudsn Wtmp	244½	+ 11½	2.3	18.7
710	409½	Jardine Matth	520½	+ 33½	2.3	11.8
36	27½	Jardine (I)	29		4.3	20.8
175½	124½	Lonrho	152	+ ½	3.7	26.6
44	16	Porter Chadbrn	40½			
689½	482	Powell Duffryn	483		6.5	13.6
164	118½	Rugnor	127		4.4	11.1
469	337	Tomkins	448	+ 1	5.4	21.7
34½	9½	Sailtrn	13	+ 1		5.0
163½	105	Stone Darby	143	+ 6	3.1	18.2
257	164	Staveley	166		6.4	51.1
220	155	Sytec	155	- 1	7.5	14.9
288	220	TT Group	236	+ 1	2.3	
283	202	Tomkins†	241	+ ½	4.0	15.6
124	62½	Trafalgr Hl	65	+ 1	1.9	
440	245	Unidare	256		5.1	
324	246½	Wagstaff	270	- 1	1.7	23.2
13½	9½	Wilkins	10½		2.5	15.6
414½	309	Williams Hldg	335	+ 2	4.9	20.7

ELECTRICITY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
894½	610½	East Midlandct	734	- 7	4.7	30.9
866	596	Eastern Elect	682	- 6	4.5	14.9
776	534	London Elect	673	- 10	4.6	10.3
888	636	Manweb†	767	+ 7	4.4	9.2
845½	547	Midlands Elect	732	- 4	4.2	11.2
520	404½	National Power	480	- 1	6.7	20.7
1065	689	Northern Elect	965	- 3	3.5	11.4
421	329	Nthn Ireland†	350	+ 4	4.2	9.5
867	597	Norweb†	793		3.9	9.6
602	448	Powergen	511	- 1	3.7	11.8
477	307	Hydro-Elect	316	+ 7½	5.2	10.0
486	324	Scottish Power†	332	+ 8	4.8	10.5
450	299	Scotpwrd	402	- 5	3.9	11.0
912	591	Sth Wales†	788	+ 7	4.7	10.4
869	591	Sth Western†	762	- 2	4.7	10.1
837	540	Southern Elect	715	- 6	4.2	10.4
903½	604½	Yorkshire Elect	774	+ 19	4.5	13.3

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
109	63	Acorn Comp	97	+ 11		
650	478	Admiral	635		1.3	19.5
200	163	Alba	195		3.3	18.1
250	126½	Amstrad	132	- ½	2.4	
38	24	Arlen	38			
94½	77	Aztec	77½		1.5	15.9
391	118	Acton	320½		2.8	10.7
478	287	BICC	321	+ 4	7.5	20.2
283	238	Bailey (Hunter)	243		5.1	*
16	7	Berkeley Rus	10			
536	402	Black	463		3.2	15.3
380	260	Bowthorpe	368	+ 7	2.9	16.5
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	19	+ ½	1.5	11.1
283	194	Cal. Micro	194		3.9	12.4
67	32	Channel Hldgs	32		4.9	9.1
58½	20	Chloridet	21½		0.6	60.9
80	60	Clayhithe†	65		5.1	*
180	81	Cognmann	150	+ 10	3.5	*
202	145	Cray Elect	153	+ 1	2.0	17.8
474	412	Critchley	468		2.3	19.7
403	269	Dania Bs Sys	389	- 1	0.6	27.0
586	430	Delta	459	- 1	4.0	19.6
565	400	Dominot	533		2.3	*
78	63	Dowding Mitc	68		4.7	24.8
1635	1230	Dnrdrt	1500	+ 5	0.9	25.5
375½	230	Electrdata 'B'	323½	+½	3.3	*
38½	21	Eximas	28½	+ ½	0.4	
4040½	2737½	Ericsson 'B'	3612½	+100	1.1	31.1
56	56	Eurocopy	67		3.8	
451	343	Europtronics	382	+ 8	1.6	20.2
410	334½	Farey Group	380		2.1	20.1
285	180	Firmstd Gp	247	+ 4	2.6	15.2
58	14½	Forward Tech	40		2.3	8.3
353½	258	GEC†	280½	- 1	4.7	14.3
197	102	Gardiner	108	+ 2	2.6	*
181	119	Greshm	133	- 1	5.6	12.5
183	121	Ind Control	141	+ 1	4.4	11.3
395	270½	Kenwood Appl	270½		4.3	15.4
1325	730	Kersdon (A)	1325		3.2	*
165	38	Kode	57	+ 2	8.8	
55	37	LPA Ind†	37		5.4	26.3
320	250	MTL Inst	298		1.8	18.6
281	210	Marconi-Sys	271		2.1	18.9
35½	25½	Microvitec	35½			77.8
494	185	Mitel	396	+ 44		
91	60	Pacer Systems	67		6.6	24.2
98	74½	Pask	79	+ 2	5.4	19.9
1415	1400	Pulbrs Lmp Hs	2040½	+ 9½	0.9	9.1
359	293	Pilco	303		2.9	19.3
344	263	Pilco 'A' Vtg	288		2.9	18.4
140	70	Plasmec	118		4.9	
179	90	Pressac	103		3.4	19.8
35	17½	Prestwick	25			
358	77	Racal	258	+ 7	1.4	18.1
303	181	Penn	220		2.6	18.1
251	187	Racal Elect†	220		2.6	18.1
57	30	Radamec	46		5.2	12.6
311	213	Rexburn	213		2.6	15.6
18½	1	Scantronic	1½	- 1		
49	34	Sensormatic	42		2.4	24.9
54	53	Soundtracs	53		6.1	*
104	38	Spectr Ind	51		0.8	
9½	1	TDK Circuits	9½			
3225	2365½	TDK	2900	+ 65½	1.2	*
447	174½	Tadpole Tech	207	+ 12		
170	77	Telematic	80	- 2	1.6	10.2
57	33	TEI	50		3.3	15.2
385	190	Telspec	343		0.9	41.4
246	133	Thorpe Fld	236		1.7	17.3
142	117	TLG	138		3.2	19.6
63	22	Total Systems	38			39.5
240	215	Tunstall	240		2.0	16.1
391	256	Unidisk†	380	+ ½	2.3	18.1
15½	8	Vectry	9	+ ½		24.2
483	379	Volex†	379	- 1	5.0	15.9
200	67	Walebdcmp	70			
167	93	Whitecroft	167		2.6	18.3

ENGINEERING

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
185	119	AMF	181		3.1	
136	47½	APV	57½		9.6	
216	146½	ASW	189		3.8	
126	20½	Acro Hamble	33	+ 1	14.2	9.3
21½	14	Aerospace Eng	18		6.0	
73	27½	Alkast	47	+ 2	2.1	*
175	138	Ash & Lacy	138		5.8	14.3
553	400	At

Increase in start-ups by budding entrepreneurs

MORE people are starting up new businesses, but they are choosing to work alone, according to National Westminster Bank's start-up index. A total of 370,000 start-ups began trading in England and Wales in 1994, compared with the 1993 figure of 350,000.

It is the first time since 1990 that the figure has risen, but start-ups are still at about the 1987 level.

Nearly two out of every three new enterprises had no employees outside immediate family. Fewer than half the budding entrepreneurs were loners when the survey started in 1987.

The retail sector, which has a high proportion of family-only businesses, accounted for 24 per cent of the start-ups last year. This sector has dominated the new business scene since the bank began its index.

Catering/leisure and construction have continued to decline. Catering/leisure has slipped from 16 per cent to 9 per cent of start-ups and construction from 15 per cent to 6 per cent.

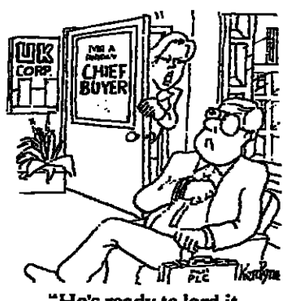
Ian Peters, the head of NatWest's small business services, says that the typical small business starter is male, aged between 25 and 44 and has a skilled manual or white-collar background. He is likely to set up as a sole trader with turnover of between £35,000 and £50,000.

Most new businesses continue to be formed in the South East, where professional services are concentrated. Manufacturing is most popular in the Midlands and retailing in the North.

Mr Peters says: "With low inflation projected for 1995 and the economy forecast to grow at about 3 per cent, conditions favour more dynamic small business growth than was seen last year.

"Nonetheless, following the harsh lessons of the recesion, small business start-ups are looking to minimise their risks as they build up their businesses, particularly by reducing initial start-up costs and overheads. This helps to explain the drop in people employed by small businesses when starting up."

RODNEY HOBSON



"He's ready to lord it over you now"

Road to recovery in Europe

BY RODNEY HOBSON

LEAPING from the ranks of the unemployed to running their own business spanning Europe has been the success story of Robert and Crecia Wills.

It is a tale that led them into the national finals of the *Reader's Digest*/Prince's Youth Business Trust awards for new businesses. Their firm, Trans European Recoveries, now provides jobs for others at Hayle, near Penzance, Cornwall, in a development area with high unemployment.

Mr and Mrs Wills recover vehicles from Europe and bring them back for their owners in the UK, the Channel Islands and the Irish Republic. They have been so successful that they have won contracts to take vehicles in the opposite direction. The firm also acts as a repair centre for local vehicle owners.

Mr Wills says: "We were unemployed for two years. We spent two-and-a-half years researching the idea and looking for contracts. We are totally independent. We have built up the business and we now have eight staff, including ourselves. In the summer, when we were very busy, there were ten. Peak periods are July and August when we were taking 80 calls a day.

Much of the work is for insurance companies, including Norwich Union and Europ Assistance, but the firm also has private clients. Apart from cars, they have repatriated motorcycles, power and speedboats, and personal effects. The company successfully reunited 150 vehicles with their owners in the first ten months of operations. Although most trips were to France, Germany and Spain, Trans Europe has ventured as far as Russia, Greece, Poland and the Czech Republic.

So far, Trans European has avoided the ignominy of suffering a breakdown by one of its own heavily-used vehicles. Mr Wills says: "We have a very strong maintenance and preventative programme. As soon as anything is detected, it is put right. We pride ourselves on very high safety and service standards. Because our vehicles run up very high mileages, they are serviced after every second trip. I was an engineer and we also have a full-time mechanic. I like to get involved. That way I can keep a closer eye on everything."

It is not only the vehicles that suffer a heavy workload. Trans Europe is on call 24 hours a day and Mr Wills was almost constantly overseas during the first four months before the business was strong enough to take on more staff.

Mrs Wills has also been across the Channel to recover vehicles. She says: "I am an administrator, housewife, office worker, bookkeeper and mother. I try to play a part in everything."

DAVE BRENCHLEY

Crecia and Robert Wills reunited 150 vehicles with their owners in the first ten months of operations

BRIEFINGS

The consolidation of value-added tax laws has opened up a loophole that will allow businesses to reclaim VAT on long-standing bad debts, according to Stones, a firm of solicitors in Exeter. Previously, VAT could not be reclaimed on bad debts incurred before April 1989, but the consolidated law does not specify a time limit. Tim Bourne, head of the commercial department at Stones, says: "As it is a loophole, the Government is bound to close it up as soon as it can, but in the meantime businesses can take advantage of the opportunity to get their money back.

☐ The area covered by South Thames Training and Enterprise Council, which has been in receivership since late December, is to be split. Two neighbouring Tecs have been invited to submit proposals, Centec for taking over Lambeth and Southwark and Solotec for Greenwich and Lewisham.

☐ The Rural Development Commission is sponsoring two regional conferences on the problems facing the centres of small market towns. The first is at Sleaford, Lincolnshire, on February 22 and the second will be at Witney, Oxfordshire, in the summer. Details: Anne Marie Chatterton, 0171-340 2907.

☐ The Department of Employment has produced a booklet called *Too Old. . .who says?* offering ideas and information for older workers.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

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OPERA page 32
Coming up roses in the Garden: a fine revival of Der Rosenkavalier from the Royal Opera

ARTS

DANCE page 33
Peter Wright, one of the architects of modern British ballet, says farewell to his company

VISUAL ART: The 'Irish' Caravaggio visits London; Yves Klein's photographer recalls his master's poise

A traitor's kiss comes to light

The Caravaggio found in Dublin five years ago is remarkable even by this artist's standards, says **Richard Cork**

Looking at *The Taking of Christ* today, I can scarcely believe that its authorship became muddled. Nobody but Caravaggio could have painted this innovative, passionate image. But for over two centuries the picture was attributed to a Dutch follower, Gerrit van Honthorst. By the time it was discovered in a Dublin religious institution five years ago, *The Taking of Christ* had been entirely forgotten.

So Sergio Benedetti, the restorer alert enough to identify the canvas, deserves our gratitude. The painting he spotted, discoloured by dirt and yellowed varnish in a Jesuit community house, is the most exciting Italian painting to have emerged in recent years. Normally on indefinite loan to the National Gallery of Ireland, it has come over to London for a few weeks. Nobody who admires Caravaggio should hesitate before making a pilgrimage to the National Gallery.

The painting could hardly be displayed with a more appropriate neighbour. New research has revealed that it was painted for the same nobleman, Ciriaco Mattei, who had already commissioned the National Gallery's finest Caravaggio, *The Supper at Emmaus*. So the two pictures have been reunited here for the first time since they hung together in a Roman palace.

They offer an illuminating contrast. Although both deal on a large scale with momentous biblical subjects, their mood and composition are strikingly different. In the Emmaus scene, our eyes are led deep into the picture over a table-top heavy with enticing food. Ample space surrounds each of the three disciples as they suddenly recognise Christ. Christ has a strangely boyish face. He seems almost female, and his unfurrowed features indicate that the Resurrection has smoothed away all the protracted agony he endured.

No such serenity can be found in the Dublin canvas. The light spreading softly over the Emmaus room has been extinguished. Caravaggio pitches his scene in the darkest of all possible nights, so that the olive branches and leaves at the top of the picture are barely discernible. All the figures loom out from an encircling blackness. Crammed together, so that their bodies overlap with an intimacy at odds with the combative theme, they spread across the picture in a frieze-like progress which must reflect Caravaggio's awareness of the compression found in classical reliefs.

The flattening of the depth explored in the Emmaus canvas reinforces the brutality of the event. Jesus finds himself trapped by the advancing soldiers. He refuses to emulate the apostle on the left, whose face seems to flow out of Christ's like a frantic alter ego. Whether fleeing or crying out for help, the apostle gives vent to a desire for action, however futile it may be. Jesus suppresses the urge to protest and escape. But Caravaggio, with great psychological subtlety, reveals the emotional cost of that decision by highlighting Christ's hands. Although they are clasped in a gesture of faith, the fingers claw at each other and disclose the anguish involved in the effort to remain still.

For this is a Christ bitterly at variance with the untroubled figure who appears centre-stage at Emmaus. Bearded and frowning, he looks older than his supposed age. Creases score the skin between his eyebrows and slice through his forehead. Jesus's pallor makes his face shine. He looks sickly, and his haggardness testifies to the privation of a man who, in the garden of Gethsemane, has been forced to confront and lament the inevitability of his imminent martyrdom.

Making eyewitnesses of us all: Caravaggio's *The Taking of Christ*, now on temporary display at the National Gallery in London

Historians have speculated that the iconography of the painting was prompted by Mattei's brother, an influential Cardinal and protector of the Observant Franciscans. According to Counter-Reformation ideas, Christ's submission to the soldiers reflects the Franciscan emphasis on denial of self. Caravaggio certainly responds to this idea, but he also insists on conveying the struggle it sets off in Christ's mind. And the figure responsible for intensifying this turmoil is Judas.

Determined to seize on the most heightened moment in the drama, Caravaggio uses the treacherous disciple with all the skill of a masterly stage director. Judas closes on his leader with repellent, vulpine hunger. The kiss of betrayal offered by his greedily protruding lips has a homoerotic force, and Christ does his best to avoid it by turning his face away. But he cannot escape. A wine-red cloak swirls above their two heads, emphasising their closeness and threatening to enfold them. Locked in an embrace which would prove lethal to them both, Jesus and his betrayer provide the painting with its darkly ambiguous heart.

Christ's stricken expression presages the greater suffering he will undergo. Perhaps that is why the gesture of the principal soldier, whose gleaming armour plays such a domineering role in the painting, has the force of a weapon. It prophesies the spear thrust into Christ's side during the Crucifixion. The soldier comes between us and the rest of the scene, blocking out most of the lantern's light and using his arm as a metal barrier preventing anyone except Judas from gaining access to his prisoner.

On the right of the painting, though, a less callous mood prevails. Another soldier gazes towards Jesus with a sense of awe. He seems to be disarmed by Christ's rigid refusal to resist, and ponders the courage involved. But the feeling of wonder is more overt in the younger man behind him. Straining to see, he tilts his head back and peers towards Jesus. Some historians have identified him as Caravaggio, and the idea makes sense.

For one thing, the lantern he holds up could be intended as a symbol of his determination, as an artist, to illuminate even the murkiest of biblical deeds. His presence here, eagerly observing, might also be an admission of a voyeur's fascination. Ultimately, though, Caravaggio's including of his own face must be the act of a man so caught up with the drama of betrayal that he yearns to see it for himself. Hence the peculiar power of *The Taking of Christ*, a painting so immediate, persuasive and perturbing that it makes eyewitnesses of us all.

● *Caravaggio's* The Taking of Christ *is at the National Gallery (0171-839 3321) until March 26*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

"ACTION painting" still goes on, but few of its practitioners carry the action side of it so far as the British/Chinese painter Hock-Aun Teh, who *in his spare time* holds a martial arts black belt. His paintings, however, are pleasant rather *than challenging*. Swirls and dashes of colour — the western element, no doubt — are combined with calligraphic flutters which must indicate the Oriental aspect of his heritage. He was born in Malaysia in 1950 and settled in Glasgow. His family originally came from southern China, and recently he visited his ancestral home, the resulting meditation on Chinese folk tales being the starting-point of the newest paintings.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (0181-741 2251) until February 28

☐ ANYONE who supposed that the Artworkers Guild must be a quaint institution with little to say about today is in for an agreeable shock at *Windsor Castle: an alternative design*. It displays the plans made for the restoration of the completely destroyed *State Dining Room and* adjacent Octagon Room by Roderick Gradidge, a regular thorn in the side of the architectural establishment, and joint winner of the *Country Life* competition for redesigning St George's Hall. Gradidge's designs, made in concert with two fellow guildsmen, the decorative designers Christopher Boulter and Anthony Ballantine, are a fascinating and sometimes outrageous blend of architectural scholarship and chicly post-modern invention.
Artworkers Guild, 6 Queen's Square, WC1 (0171-837 3474), daily 2-6pm, until Friday

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

How I caught a falling star

Yves Klein was one of modern art's great showmen. Harry Shunk had the task of capturing the show on film; he talks to **Sacha Craddock**

Nobody was more concerned with self-promotion than Yves Klein. He made paintings and sculpture, did performances, published a one-day newspaper, set fire to things, threw away money, "flew" through the air, competed with everyone, prayed to God, gave lectures, held audience. He recognised no hierarchy among these practices.

As Klein strove to conjure something that went beyond the tangible, he became more and more dependent on "evidence" of his activities. He needed photographs, as much as painting or sculpture, to build up his myth. He relied heavily on a young photographer called Harry Shunk.

The relationship between the artist and the person who photographs his or her work is an important one. With performance or installation art, especially, the photograph lives on after the art is over. In many cases the photograph comes to replace the artwork, or even becomes the artwork itself. The art photographer has to play a strange role, somewhere between documentation and creation.

Shunk now lives in New York. With more than 650,000 negatives just from the seven years he spent in Paris, he possesses an exceptional archive of material, an almost seamless account of one of the key moments in postwar European art. He arrived in Paris in 1958, after two years in the care of a couple of elderly women in Guildford who had found him on the street. He was travelling on a Red Cross passport, obtained two years earlier at the Yugoslav border near his home in Trieste. He was only 16.

Shunk was initially taught to take photographs and develop film by the elderly Jewish Austrian photographer Dora Kallmus. "When I was with her, she was working on a show about slaughterhouses. I didn't have any idea about photography. She talked about the 1920s. She had worked with Picasso, Chagall, all those people." It was Kallmus who suggested it was a good idea to work with artists, "because if you make a mistake, they don't take it very seriously".

So Shunk contacted Klein, having read an article about him in a magazine. "He lived in the 14th arrondissement, in the most elegant street for artists. Only those who had arrived lived there. Klein could hardly pay the rent. I lived in the Ile de la Cité — it sounds good, but it wasn't — in one room which had to be transformed from darkroom to living room to bedroom."

Whenever Klein contacted Shunk, he demanded 100 per cent attention and commitment, knowing that Shunk was also working with other artists. "If he found that another artist was doing something, his blood boiled. They were all jealous and possessive. At the time I thought that was what artists were."

At times Shunk simply had to take a break, to protect himself from the force of Klein's driven, dazzling, egocentric personality. "I don't know how I did it. I could never afford to run off many shots. They had to be good. We didn't have the money to buy lots of film. Klein wasn't paying me. They were all like that — they never had any money." Often Shunk's payment was simply the chance to collaborate on some of the best Happenings of the time. "It was a great time. There was such excitement then."

Yves Klein's *Leap into the Void*, October 1960. The image was captured and manipulated by Harry Shunk

The first performance Shunk ever photographed was an example of what Klein called Anthropometry, in which naked women smeared with International Klein Blue paint dragged each other around across an expanse of white paper to the accompaniment of Klein's own Monotone Symphony, played by an orchestra in full formal dress. It was attended by Klein's friends, but mainly by a select invited group of smartly dressed people who, according to Shunk, were "not really people that come to this kind of thing. It wasn't the gallery for it. The gallerist was from Brussels and showed Bernard Buffet and art like that."

Klein's famous *Leap into the Void*, which gives the Hayward Gallery exhibition its title, was deliberately rearranged to clash with an agreement Shunk had made to photograph the artist Arman picking up garbage for an exhibition. The photograph has become an artistic icon. Klein insisted that he had made the leap before, but that nobody had witnessed it. He needed Shunk's camera to record the feat, to prove it.

Klein was a world-class judo expert; his basic textbook on the subject is still in use in France. He used his physical powers as an extension of his art. The imagery of the leap is rich in meaning: the suggestion of levitation and of flying encourages mystical and religious associations.

"Klein was very religious," says Shunk. "It was very strange, especially in that age. He didn't really insist on it, but you could feel it."

On this occasion, Klein needed Shunk to act as a straight documentary photographer, but to fiddle the evidence. "There were three versions in the end. One with a bike, one with Yves's car, and one with nothing. He immediately decided the official version should be the one with the bike, but then he also sent out the other one. But never the one with the car; he hated the car because it was cheap.

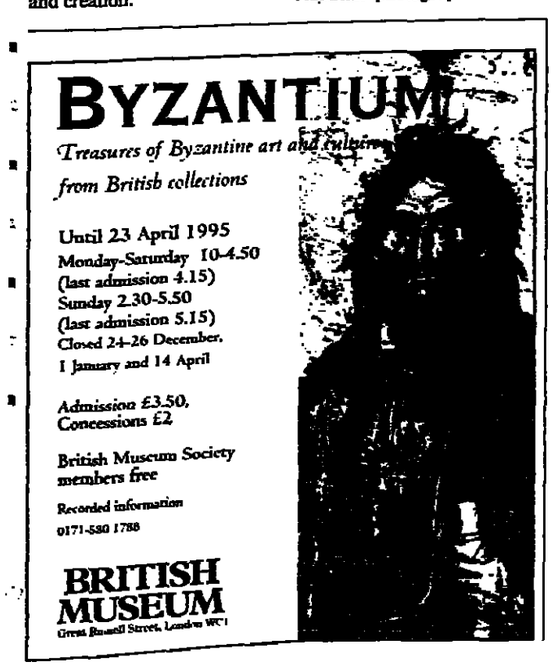
"The building was next to the judo club. There were maybe eight big judo guys with tarpaulins. He said there would be two leaps only. One with a tarpaulin and one without. And he did the one with the tarpaulin which I photographed. Then Rotraut, his wife, begged him not to do the other one. I was so nervous, because I didn't know whether I had the right moment. I thought it didn't matter, because the second one was going to be the important one. And then he didn't do it.

"I thought it was just going to be a straight photo. I didn't know that I would have to work on it in the darkroom. There were two separate pictures joined together." Klein made Shunk swear never to discuss the subject, and even threatened him with lawyers if he mentioned taking out the judo figures underneath.

The last photo performance Klein orchestrated in collaboration with Shunk in March 1962 has an extraordinary sense of premonition. He told friends that he knew he was going to have another heart attack, but he still refused to slow down. *Cigit l'espace* shows Klein lying underneath a gold-covered slab or panel. Placed on top are scatterings of gold leaf, artificial roses and a blue sponge wreath.

Klein died that year aged only 34. "When I read about Klein dying, I thought it was another of his jokes. There was a funeral in the South of France. I stayed nearby with Marie Raymond, Klein's mother. We found a suitcase with lots of photos from when he was a boy. I photographed them all. I always do that. I photographed everything, even art criticism in newspapers. Somehow it is easier to put it into photographs."

● Yves Klein: Leap into the Void *is at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800) from Thursday until April 23*



TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

FULL MOON Jon Strickland plays the hero of Caradog Prichard's powerful and haunting semi-autobiographical novel, set in the slate mine districts of North Wales. Helena Kaut-Howson's Theatr Clwyd production comes to London after a sold-out tour
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Previews tonight, opens tomorrow. 7.30pm. Until Mar 4

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET The company returns to its former London home tonight with a triple-bill programme. Matthew Hart's *Street* opens the proceedings, followed by Balanchine's *Prodigal Son* and Cranko's comic *Pineapple Poll*. Ashton's most charming and brilliant of modern ballets, *La Fille mal gardée*, can be seen from Thursday to Saturday.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-713 6000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

CLEO LAINE: The queen of jazz returns, accompanied by her equally marvellous other half John Dankworth to unveil material from her most recent album, *Blue and Sentimental*. A real cabaret treat
Green Room, Café Royal, Regent Street W1 (0171-437 9090). Tonight-Feb 18, 9.15pm. Dinner from 7pm

THE LIVE BED SHOW: Opening night for Mr and Mrs Merton — Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton — as a couple on their journey towards sharing a bed. Arthur Smith's revised version of his 1989 Edinburgh Festival comedy
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6.30pm and 8.45pm

ELSEWHERE

BATH: The Theatre Royal plays host this week to the Gate Theatre Dublin's production of **The Plough and the Stars**. Anita Reeves stars in the third play in O'Casey's "Dublin Trilogy", about the events of the 1916 Rebellion
Theatre Royal, Sawclose (0225 448844). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

PRESTON: Malcolm Stewart conducts the **Royal Liverpool Philharmonic** for another concert in its Guild Hall season. Tonight's programme includes Handel's *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*, Albinoni's *Adagio*, Bach's Suite No 3 and Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*
Guild Hall, Lancaster Road (0772 258858). Tonight, 7.30pm

NORWICH: Millicent Martin, Michael Cashman and Patrick Cargill launch a four-month UK tour of Michael Frayn's classic comedy **Noises Off** tonight. A tenth-anniversary celebration for Mobil Touring Theatre, with Mark Curry, Andrew Hall and Miranda Foster.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Street (01603 630000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

SOUTHAMPTON: Opening night for Steve Gooch's **Dark Glory**, a story of the early years of Alfred Lord Tennyson, from childhood in the remote Lincolnshire Wolds to national fame with *In Memoriam*. Patrick Sandford directs.
Nuffield, University Road (01703 671771). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm; Fri and Sat, 8pm, mat Feb 25, 2.30pm. Until Feb 25.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-638-4141) . . . **British Museum**: Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (0171-636 1555) . **National Gallery**: The Age of Elegance (0171-839 3321) . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Christina Rossetti, final week (0171-306 0055) . . . **Royal Academy**: Nicolas Poussin (0171-439 7438) . **Serpentine**: Man Ray (0171-402 6075) . . . **Tate**: New Displays 1995 (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A**: Warworks: Women, Photography and the Art of War (0171-938 8500) . . **Whitechapel**: Worlds in a Box (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: The Fats Waller musical show, an evening of stomping, tapping, exuberant song and dance
Tricycle, Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 4pm. Returns in person at the box office from 7pm only, until Feb 25

□ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**. John Mortimer's adaptation, Ian Judge's direction and Clive Francis's Scrooge make this a cosy evening, well removed from the moral fervour of Dickens.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm.

□ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm.

◪ **THE DANCE OF DEATH**. Strindberg's impassioned, sometimes comic, view of marriage as hell. Subtle characterisation by Gemma Jones and John Neville. Directed by Peter Stormare
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Until Mar 4.

□ **DEALER'S CHOICE**: Patrick Marber, co-writer of numerous Steve Coogan shows, directs his own first play tonight — a comedy about an all-night poker game.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing, 7.30pm, opens Thurs

◪ **MAMA I WANT TO SING**. The longest-running off-Broadway black musical, based on the life of the Harlem singer Doris Troy (who here plays her own mother). Cast includes the charismatic Chaka Khan.
Cambridge, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Tue and Sat, 3pm. Until Apr 8.

□ **THE MAN OF MODE**. Etherege's witiest comedy: sex, style and even some true love. David Westhead as Dorimant, Tim Potter as Sir Fopling Flutter. Max Stafford-Clark directs.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745).

□ **ROMEO AND JULIET**. Inventive performance artist Emily Wool, in her first classical role, plays Juliet opposite Stuart Bunce's Romeo. Neil Bartlett directs the co-production with West Yorkshire Playhouse, whither it transfers in March.
Lyric, King St, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; Sat 2.30pm plus mid-week mats on Feb 8, 14, 16, 28, March 7, 1.30pm. Until Mar 11

□ **THE THREE LIVES OF LUCIE CABROL**. Award-winning performance from Lilo Baur in Simon McBurney's thrilling production for Theatre de Complicite on the loves and anguish of peasant life.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm. Until Feb 25.

□ **ZORRO — THE MUSICAL**. Andy Garcia twirls his cape as the masked swashbuckler of comics legend returns to twirl his cape in Ken Hill's latest (and sadly last) musical romp.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Feb 14.

LONG RUNNERS

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Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

I LIKE IT LIKE THAT (15) Cheerful drama of Bronx family life from debuting director Darnell Martin; with Lauren Vélez and Jon Seda.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031)

LEON (18) Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty thriller shot in New York by French director Luc Besson. With Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE** (18) Frolics and chicanery at a turn-of-the-century sanitarium. Overdone health food satire, with Anthony Hopkins, Bridget Fonda, Matthew Brodenck. Director, Alan Parker
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

STRAW DOGS (18). Revival of Sam Peckinpah's notorious rural horror film, filmed in England with Dustin Hoffman and Susan George. It still bites.
NFT (071-928 3232)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15). Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert.
Lumiere (0171-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2223) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

BARCELONA (12): Whit Stillman's successor to *Metropolitan*, an agreeable blend of romance, politics and disco dancing, set during the early 1980s.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426-915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN (PG). Delectable mosaic of Taipei family life from the director of *The Wedding Banquet*, Ang Lee.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18) Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **Screen/Green** (0171-228 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG). Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire (0800-888 911) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

NOSTRADAMUS (15): Life and prophecies of the 16th-century legend. Preposterous Euro-pudding, with Tchéky Karyo and Amanda Plummer. Director, Roger Christian
Odeon Mezzanine (01426 915683)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **NFT** (0171-928 3232) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. With James Woods, Eric Roberts, Rod Steiger. Director, Luis Llosa
MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun, with Jaye Davidson. Director, Roland Emmerich.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15). Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Minema** (0171-235 4225)

◆ **TIMECOP** (18). Tedious, violent tale of Jean-Claude Van Damme's time-travelling cop. With Mia Sara, Ron Silver. Director, Peter Hyams.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3303)

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** enjoys a Strauss revival notable for its sumptuous musical virtues

Caught in the game of the rose

Der Rosenkavalier
Covent Garden

If the court of posterity is still reserving judgement on Richard Strauss, as more austere music-lovers would insist, then performances of *Rosenkavalier* as good as the Royal Opera's revival will be useful evidence for the defence. Simply at the level of vocal and orchestral sound it was seductively luscious, yet it also made you think about the piece, about the irony, the truth-telling and the pain lurking just beneath its glittering surface.

Rosenkavalier is commonly dubbed "Strauss's *Figaro*", but here — and not just because the two operas are running side by side at Covent Garden — it seemed more like his *Cosi fan tutte*. When you play games with love, someone always gets hurt.

The illness of Anne Sofie von Otter brought in Ann Murray at the eleventh hour to play Octavian to Felicity Lott's Marschallin. They are a long-established team, two artists who know each other's reflexes so well that they seem to be performing as one; the interplay was riveting in its detail. Lott's portrayal of a woman "of a certain age" is gaining steadily in depth. Naturally, her prowess as a singer of lieder and mélodies means that every line is rich in colour and nuance, suggesting countless shades of meaning.

But her dramatic response is equally resourceful. There is a wholehearted acceptance of the role's seamier side: moments of cruelty in the Act III shoot-out, of sarcasm and anger, the more barbed lines delivered with the sweetest, most lethal of smiles. Yet the heartbreak is also there, in a fascinating interpretation.

As is the case with Murray's Octavian. You know from her body-language at curtain-rise that this is going to be a bumpy evening. Few catch so completely the helplessness of a 17-year-old boy having a whale of a time physically but miles out of his depth emotionally, and unable to deal with the social crisis of Act II without resorting to loss of temper. Murray is also very funny as a dough-faced Mariandel, and of course the tricky role fits her bright mezzo-soprano — or rather soprano-mezzo — like a glove.

But it is the playing of Ochs that is bringing fresh resonance to *Rosenkavalier* nowadays. Last year in Cardiff we heard Franz Hawlata's young, challengingly sexy Ochs: here, Aage Haugland plays him as a thoroughly amiable fellow with healthy appetites (his rehearsal for goosing Mariandel is hilarious), but he is also thoughtful and with an air of wistful melancholy. He knows what is at stake in the shoot-out, fights back, is outflanked, and dissolves into tears when chased from the stage. Haugland was not in his freshest voice, but his performance was full of insight.

Barbara Bonney's Sophie, so fresh, so knowing and vocally so assured, completes a formidable quartet. If there are few to match them lower down the list, this is more to do with the decorative Schlesinger production (revived by David Edwards) than with potential: Alan Opie's strongly sung Faninal is defeated by costume and make-up.

The Straussian balance is restored by Andrew Davis's unapologetically romantic conducting, lush, long-breathed and succulent. There are other ways of approaching this score, but Davis's will do very nicely. We should be allowed a good wallow every now and then.

The surtitles are unacceptable. Quite apart from the omission of key lines, the wit, colour and irony of Hofmannsthal's text are ironed out into bland anonymity, almost a case for action under the Trades Description Act.

DONALD COOPER

Felicity Lott as the Marschallin: barbed lines delivered with the most lethal of smiles

THEATRE: On the London Fringe, stagings of a Duras melodrama and a weird new musical

Too loud in grief

Savannah Bay
New Grove, NW1

IN A typical Marguerite Duras play something terrible has happened, long ago, and is being remembered by survivors. Generally the terrible event has been a cataclysmic love, and the survivors marvel at its power while mourning, rather dreamily, the sorrows it has brought.

Such concerns hold the stage more successfully in France than here. Certainly this is the case with *Savannah Bay*, which reads well but as directed by Katrin Magrowitz for Koncrete Theatre adds up to very little. Her previous work, most recently in Kokoschka's *Murderer, Hope of Woman* last year, expressed wild conflict through thrilling physical activity, but this is not an approach that can succeed with the dialogue of Duras, where memories wash like waves across a rock, passions ebb and flow, but the mood is one of restraint.

An elderly woman, once a distinguished actress, sits listening to a record of Piaf singing of love and death. She does not immediately recognise the granddaughter who visits her daily and would like, it seems, to hear about her mother's death. The grandmother tells fragments of the story quite readily, the granddaughter adds other details. They speak of the white rock in the bay to which a young girl swam, of the man who joined her there, of the great love that blossomed. When their child was born she left the babe and went out to drown herself, possibly to preserve her love.

Refracted through the memories of the two women these events could create a portrait of, I don't know, grief preserved through time, perhaps, or the need to discover a past. But this would have to be done through evocative tones of voice and silences that throb with thoughts unspoken. Magrowitz allows the granddaughter (Lisa D'Agostino) to be angry rather than persistent, and while the pacing around the stage, and the postures frozen against the rear wall, may be intended to convey fraught states of mind they work against the value of the dialogue, diminish it and put nothing special in its stead.

The play closes with the grandmother (Anna Chauveau) slowly revolving on the dais. In a film, where the camera moves, her face would be defenceless against our scrutiny. On the stage it is the actress who must move and thus invites us to look at her. The change is total and distorting.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Songs for missing persons

Mad and Her Dad
Lyric Studio, W6

MADELEINE's dad went off when she was three. Mad now wears such childishly bright outfits she must be a bit disturbed. But this is a sitcom cum sex-comedy cum musical-spoof, so nothing is too serious. Paul Sand's sung-through music-theatre piece, starring *Coronation Street*'s Denise Black, seems to be suffering from a worse identity problem than its heroine.

Mad is ultimately united with her dad, Dan the wallpaper-designer — who, one can only hope, will now grow out of his obsession with the girl-ogling sexuality of the Sixties. Mad also patches up the rift with Tom, her lover, whom she catches having it away with her housemate, Anna.

Mad and her Dad, however, is never reconciled within itself. It inclines towards avant-garde opera, yet has half a mind to be a commercial musical. The on-stage string quartet generates edgy cacophonies with fleeting chromatic crunches. Then a song ends in a sugary chord-sequence. It sounds like an unwise collaboration between Britten and Lloyd Webber.

Sometimes Sand's pastiche is quirkily interesting. Not everyday do you see people singing arias into mobile phones. Sometimes, the show is amusingly silly, as when the love triangle turns into a courtly dance accompanied by the libretto's "Yeah, chuck 'im out". The singing is strong.

Yet the acting is clumsy, over-choreographed by director Glen Walford. Black has been encouraged into being comically gauche. Only Conrad Nelson's Tom intensifies into seriousness as his business is blighted by scandal. The plot is in a frightful pickle. It is as if Sand has pasted songs together without charting the story in between. The show also indulges in the sexually cheap. Mounting sales of Dan's pseudo-artistic soft-porn wallpaper (phallic cacti encroaching on female torsos) apparently serve as the climax of the piece. Not very satisfying if you ask me.

KATE BASSETT

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A retirement gift for more work

Sir Peter Wright has decided to step down as artistic director of Birmingham Royal Ballet. But dance has not seen the last of him, if he has any say in the matter. Allen Robertson reports

Just back from three days in Vienna, where he is staging a production of *The Sleeping Beauty*, Peter Wright is catching his breath. He is at his north London home for all of 48 hours before heading towards the Midlands once again.

He has been keeping up this kind of on-the-road schedule for most of his life, although it has been even more hectic since his company, Birmingham Royal Ballet, moved out of Sadler's Wells Theatre in London five years ago. But now, at the age of 67, and a recent victim of the muscle-wasting disease myasthenia gravis, Wright is stepping down from his post as BRB's artistic director.

Is he really retiring? "I'm not going to go and sit in the country," he says. "If that's what you mean by retiring, no. I'm not. I'm open to offers and anything that comes my way I shall grab."

Indeed, it is impossible to imagine Wright cutting himself off entirely from ballet. His immaculate staging of *Giselle* has just been revived at Covent Garden; his new version of *Coppélia* is in rehearsal for a Birmingham opening on March 3. Over Christmas he was involved in the BBC's taping of his vivid production of *The Nutcracker*, and the Viennese staging of his sumptuous *Beauty* is set to open on March 19. As if that were not enough, tonight his company returns to Sadler's Wells for its final season there under his guiding hand.

That is hardly the daily routine one would expect from an ailing, soon-to-retire grandfather. But Wright, who was knighted in 1993, is thrilled to be working. He was afraid his illness, which has no known cure and is only kept under control by drugs, might prevent him from continuing to do what he does best.

"Onassis died of it," Wright says. "And I believe Olivier had it as well. It's like any rare disease: you've never heard of it until you've got it and then, suddenly, everyone seems to know someone who . . .

"I've been taking drugs for about eight months now, and we've finally found the proper balance. Now I'm being weaned off the steroids: that's going to take about another eight months. But by doing these recent productions I've proved to myself that I don't have to be put on the shelf just because I'm retiring. That's a wonderful thing to know."

Wright's departure from BRB at the end of this season marks a severing in the chain of continuity in British ballet. The giants of his youth, such as Frederick Ashton and Margot Fonteyn, are gone. Many of his contemporaries, such as Kenneth MacMillan, have died, while Lynn Seymour, still a schoolgirl when Wright first hired her, has left ballet behind her. Anthony Dowell, current director of the Covent Garden company, is 15 years younger than Wright, while David Bintley, who takes over from Wright at BRB later this year, was born in 1957, the year Wright was appointed ballet master.

> ❛ I'm not going to go and sit in the country. Anything that comes my way, I shall grab ❜

He joined what was then called the Sadler's Wells Theatre Ballet in 1949. Over the decades, as teacher, choreographer, producer and director, he has not only helped to develop British ballet's own style, he has also become its elder statesman.

"There is no company I have found in the world that can compare with us regarding company style, company development, continuity and all that," Wright says. "The truth is that the majority of European companies are not national companies at all. They are international, with dancers from here, there and all over, so none of them, except the Danes, has their own style the way we do. And it's so important that we continue to nourish and cherish our special heritage."

It is his role as an arbiter of taste and upholder of tradition that has proved supremely valuable. His meticulous, dramatically convincing stagings of the great 19th-century classics are models throughout the world. Each of Wright's productions reveals his knack for striking an ideal balance between authenticity and immediacy.

"I would be the last person to mess around, to tinker for tinkering's sake," he says. "Those ballets are part of our heritage, and I believe in tradition. Of course, they have to be alive for today's audiences, and with all the classics I add a few of my own touches. But, really, I don't fiddle around that much."

Starting in 1988, when the Birmingham Hippodrome first suggested that Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet move to the Midlands, Wright's life underwent a sea change. "In the beginning I was furious," he says. "I hit the roof. I was dead against it, because I thought that Birmingham was simply trying to buy itself a ballet company.

"Fortunately, I quickly realised that this was far from the case. The Hippodrome proved that it wanted to integrate us properly into the theatre, and the marvellous thing is that over the whole five years we've been there, plus the two-year run-up period, it has kept absolute faith with us. There's never been any major disagreement on the artistic side at all. In truth, we're now a much better company because of it.

"Still, the Wells had been an amazing home for us," he says. "Although it was very cramped, we were looked after extremely well. In fact, it was because of our relationship with the Wells that there was a company ready to take advantage of the opportunity, when Birmingham beckoned."

Between now and July 1, when there will be a special celebratory gala in Birmingham for Wright, the honorary events will come rolling by with almost alarming frequency. "Yes", he says, with a wry smile, "all these little milestones. I know I'm now going to be able to do certain things in my life and with my family that I haven't been able to do because of lack of time, and I'll love that. But I shall always take an interest. After all, this company has been my life for a very long time and I will always be grateful to have had Birmingham as a wonderful challenge at the end of my career.

"I agree it is time, that there should be a change, and I have promised myself that I'm going to be very good when it comes. Still," he laughs, "I know I shall hate it when it happens. Hate it."

● *Birmingham Royal Ballet is at Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-278 8916) tonight, until Sat. Coppélia opens at the Birmingham Hippodrome on March 3*

BILL COOPER

Listening to the master: Peter Wright makes a point to an attentive Marion Tait, prima ballerina of Birmingham Royal Ballet

ROCK: Heady spirit of punk; a rare vocal treat

Siouxsie Sioux and her long-serving Banshees: Budgie (left), and Steve Severin

The vamp bares her teeth

Siouxsie and the Banshees
Empire, W12

FIRST, a warning. Writing as someone who greeted the 1978 release of the Banshees' debut record, "Hong Kong Garden", by hitch-hiking from Rome to the first record shop I could find in Britain, dispassion has never marked my relationship with one of punk rock's most enduring icons. And not just me. Over nearly 20 years, the Banshees have attracted a fanatical following and sold out theatres. The band is understandably concerned — as this tour's choice of material has shown — that it should not be dragged down by the weight of nostalgia.

Even so, justifiable excitement has greeted these shows. Their most recent album, *The Rapture*, has refined all the darkly swirling drama of their music while adding new, subtle touches. The title refers to the day when, if fundamentalist Christians are to be believed, the righteous will be whisked up in the heavenly elevator. Given Siouxsie's lyrical predilection for maelstroms, floating corpses and straitjackets, it all makes, in Banshee terms, perfect sense.

Live, the band remain powerfully affecting. As the opening hiss of "The Double Life" gave way to the pounding rhythms of bassist Steve Severin and drummer Budgie, it was clear that none of their lean and angular menace had dissipated. Guitarist Knox, accompanied by the most excellent cellist and keyboardist Martin McCarrick, whipped up an exhilarating, stinging whirl of sound. Siouxsie's demeanour — somewhere between sphinx, Theda Bara and slightly dotty aunt — and her swooping, unearthly voice had a predictable effect. Roses, lace ribbons and a few bodies were hurled towards the stage.

Her twirling dance on "Tearing Apart" signalled that sonic take-off had commenced. Strobe lighting, combined with a heavily flanged mix on two old songs, "Christine" and "The Killing Jar", and the new single "Stargazer", proved arresting, as did McCarrick's epic cello sweeps on "Sick Child" and, later, "The Rapture". But the Banshees have always excelled at the grand gesture, and their trademark vortices of sound and light on "Not Forgotten", "Night Shift" and "Love Out Of Me" were monumental, breathtaking moments.

LOUISE GRAY

Talent beyond all limitations

Victoria Williams
Dingwalls, NW1

RELUCTANTLY, one must first state the obvious. Victoria Williams is rightly anxious that she not be defined as a musician with multiple sclerosis, and would not want the fact of her medical condition to influence the way in which we hear and react to her songs.

But the limitations it places on her freedom to travel and play have kept her a relative secret in Britain prior to this one-off appearance with her excellent Loose Band, she has played here just once, as support to Randy Newman in a London show during the late 1980s.

So last Wednesday's two-and-a-quarter hour show was more welcome than ever, particularly as it is said to presage further concerts in the spring. The Louisiana-born singer, now 34 and resident in Los Angeles, is a gloriously free spirit both musically and lyrically, and has a charm that kept her audience enthralled.

Her singing voice explored a range that runs from deep and guttural to helium-high, while her interpretative skill was shown in a fresh and quite stunning version of the standard "Someone To Watch Over Me".

Her own songs were the real treat, though. Williams has not been a prolific recording artist to date. But her repertoire is full of gems of widely divergent stylistic colours. "Crazy Mary" and "Century Plant" showed she has both southern Gothic and the narrative tradition down to a fine art, while "The Waterfall Song" and "Opelousa" were representative of her more pastoral side. Meanwhile, a deeply affecting song about mortality, "I Can't Cry Hard Enough", showed that for all the charm and whimsy, she has considerable force as an articulator of the human condition.

ALAN JACKSON

CONCERTS: The opening of the Tippett Festival in London; a Schnittke cantata in Edinburgh

At 90, still a child of our time

Sir Michael Tippett has much to look back on in the music that makes up his ninetieth birthday festival of concerts and other events, oddly titled "Visions of Paradise". But it was not just his great age that brought the audience to its feet when he made his faltering way to take a platform bow at the end of the first major concert on Sunday.

No, there could be few, if any, who would not admit themselves moved by *A Child of Our Time*, the oratorio of reconciliation, as well as anger and compassion, with which he first staked his claim to wider reputation half a century ago. Although prompted by a topical event — the ruthless pogrom against the Jews — its nature and message remain sadly relevant to "our time", even now.

At the Barbican, **Sir Colin Davis** measured his conducting with the experience of his long devotion to Tippett's music, and drew from the **London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus** a vigour and breadth of feeling that went to the heart of the work, not least in the Negro spirituals that comprise the most haunting content. John Tomlinson was a replacement for Siegmund Nimsgern as the bass soloist, and his noble delivery of the narration raised the question of why a singer native to English was not engaged in the first place.

Deborah Riedel soared radiantly in the soprano solos, with Florence Quivar a contralto of generous warmth of expression, and Laurence Dale's tenor was nicely incisive in his dramatic contributions. It was a performance of much drama and imaginative insight, which happily eclipsed the preceding performance of Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos (K365), where the two soloists — the Labèque sisters, Katia and Marielle — showed themselves clatteringly insensitive in all matters of keyboard style. Their phrasing was unpoetic and pedalling erratic.

More early Tippett featured in the first of seven associated early-evening programmes at St Giles, Cripplegate, the church in the Barbican just across from the main hall. The **Lindsay String Quartet** has always been a champion of Tippett in performance and recording, and this month it is giving all five of his quartets in this series, beginning with Nos 1 and 2, from more than half a century ago.

They sounded a touch self-consciously assertive in the first quartet, which goes back to 1935 in origin, but compensated for this in a richly textured lyricism for the Lento movement and exuberant conviction in the finale. Quartet No 2, meanwhile, was notable for a firmly balanced assurance of part-writing and the enjoyment of its abundant melody. These enclosed three Fantasias by Henry Purcell, a formative influence on Tippett. They were played with sensitive style and buoyant spirit.

NOEL GOODWIN

Tippett: huge ovation for his platform appearance

Passions in negative

RSNO/Lazarev
Edinburgh

IN THE right area of the repertoire — where he is not invariably to be found — Alexander Lazarev is a very persuasive musician. Indeed, for a full-colour projection of that extraordinary lucky-dip compilation of pieces from Shostakovich's film score, *The Gadfly*, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra could have found no one better qualified than its own recently appointed principal guest conductor.

Lazarev seized upon every allusion to his old friends in Russian music — Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Glazunov, Stravinsky — with a thrill of recognition, and commended it with unfailing enthusiasm to his new friends in the Usher Hall. And the orchestra entered into the carefree spirit of the thing with no technical inhibitions, taking all kinds of risks and making a brilliantly stylish success of it. The string soloists were as expressive as the clarinets and trumpets (outstanding among the wind-players) were aggressive.

Having done *The Gadfly* so well, Lazarev might have been expected to find similar inspiration in the excesses and eccentricities of Alfred Schnittke's *Faust Cantata*. He of all people must be aware of the operatic associations of the work in the composer's mind and, as artistic director of the Bolshoi, he cannot have been short of ideas for presenting them in the concert hall.

The RSNO performance was, however, peculiarly unambitious from that point of view, more oratorio than anything else.

Still, that is a perfectly legitimate approach to it — just as it is to Stravinsky's opera-oratorio *Oedipus Rex*, which is so frequently echoed in the choral parts. The composer himself has described the *Faust Cantata* as a "negative passion" and, as Philip Salmon so expertly demonstrated, the role of Schnittke's Narrator has a clear parallel with that of Bach's Evangelist. It is difficult, on the other hand, to reconcile the oratorio interpretation with the twanging and thumping of electric guitars and, at the climax of the work, the outrageously macabre tango where Faust meets his bloody, brain-bespattered end.

Casting Sarah Walker as Mephisto here was scarcely calculated to create the kind of sensation Schnittke had in mind when he gave the role to a subversive Soviet rock star. But, microphone in hand, she sounded authentic enough and she did introduce an essential element of the grotesque to a performance which, in spite of the well-prepared contributions of the RSNO Chorus and the brave efforts of Ulrik Cold as Faust, had been disappointingly tame up to that point.

GERALD LARNER

JAZZ: A soundtrack giant lets his hair down

As never seen on TV

Colin Towns's Mask Orchestra
Purcell Room

UNLIKE the vast majority of jazz composers, Colin Towns has had his music heard regularly by millions of people.

Anyone who has watched the television series *Between the Lines* and *Brother Cadfael*, for example, as well as the adaptations of novels ranging from Ben Elton's *Stark* through Angus Wilson's *Anglo Saxon Attitudes* to Samuel Richardson's *Clarissa* has heard it.

Those who tune in to the BBC1 serialisation of Edith Wharton's *The Buccaneers*, which began on Sunday night, will also hear it, as will cinema audiences for the next Disney blockbuster, *The Puppetmaster*.

Many of the qualities necessary for successful television and film music — immediacy, dramatic flexibility and a naggingly insistent memorability — were among the most attractive features of the music Towns presented to a highly appreciative Purcell Room last Wednesday night.

But his compositions for a 16-piece jazz ensemble also demonstrated a number of skills vital to the jazz composer's art, among them a sure sense of structure, and an ability to display his many stellar soloists in the musical settings most sympathetic to them.

Thus, throughout a first half comprised chiefly of shortish pieces from their eponymous 1993 album, the Mask Orchestra either swung hard, punching out strident, gutsy brass figures combining all the unfettered exuberance of township music with the drilled precision of Basie-like arrangements, or communed gently with itself, injecting the swooningly lovely "Tears For A Traveller", in particular, with just the right amount of pathos.

In the second half, however, Towns unveiled a lengthy piece, "Short Stories", which, although it ranged in mood from an almost Mingusian rambunctiousness through to death march solemnity, cohered with all the natural ease of a popular song.

But if it was Towns's architectural deftness that impressed the mind of the listener, it was his skill in exploiting the various strengths of his soloists that immediately pleased the ear.

Alan Skidmore's Coltrane-tinged tenor sax was set most effectively against the rhythm section alone, and Guy Barker's exuberant trumpet ripped and tore across fuller brass arrangements.

Meanwhile, Gerrard Presencer, Barker's section mate, spun intricate long lines over some tricky chord sequences.

Peter King's creamy but tart alto and Julian Arguelles's sonorous baritone rose entirely naturally from softly repeated piano figures or quiet brass statements, imbuing the music with a gentle, but most affectingly dignified melancholy.

Those outside London will have to wait until the first week of March to see the Mask Orchestra when it sets out on a short tour of the United Kingdom, but if this London concert is anything to go by, their patience will be richly rewarded.

CHRIS PARKER

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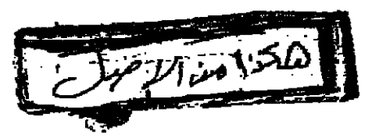

LAW

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Why £1 million is a fair price to pay for tragedy

Richard Bretton argues in favour of the compensation awarded to his client for mental disability

On August 13, 1982, Peter Vernon's two young daughters, Philippa, seven, and Theresa, three, together with a friend, Sophie Beloe, were being driven in Powys, Wales, by the family nanny. The nanny lost control of the car on a bend and crashed into a river. Mr and Mrs Vernon were called to the scene of the accident. In the words of Mr Justice Sedley: "From the bank they watched helplessly while hope came and went. There is no need to detail the horror of the event: it was every parent's nightmare become a reality." All three children drowned: the nanny was rescued.

Within a few months of the tragedy it became evident to Mr Vernon's wife, family and friends that he was having difficulty in coping with the shock. In spite of intensive medical treatment and therapy, Mr Vernon did not recover. High Court proceedings were issued in 1985 by Mr Vernon against the car's insurers, General Accident. In 1988 the insurers admitted that the tragedy had been caused by the nanny's negligent driving. General Accident denied that Mr Vernon had a medical condition caused by his witnessing of the tragedy. Accordingly, all the financial consequences of Mr Vernon's medical condition were also disputed.

On January 12, 1994, a trial to decide the level of damages started before Mr Justice Sedley in Cardiff. No one in court that day would have predicted that the trial "road show" would proceed to six courts in Bristol and London, including "the Blue Arrow" court complex in Chancery Lane, and the Court of Appeal. Mr Vernon was in the witness box for more than five weeks.

Judgment was delivered on day 71. It ran to 262 pages and was not read out because Mr Justice Sedley estimated that it would take eight hours. The court has yet to decide whether Mr Vernon will recover interest and costs. Mr Vernon was awarded £1.1 million. Why? An explanation is needed as many commentators, while expressing sympathy for Mr Vernon, have stated that compensation should not have been awarded for "nervous shock", and that "it is folly to put a price on tragedy".

The court accepted that Mr Vernon's witnessing of the accident had destabilised his previously insecure but manageable personality. Chronic reaction, anxiety and depression have now become permanent features of his mental state. Mr Vernon's response was outside the normal range of emotional reaction for which compensation cannot be recovered. If Mr Vernon had not witnessed the tragedy, his claim would have been limited to the then fixed sum for bereavement of £3,500.

Was Mr Vernon's medical condition unusual, or indeed unique? No. A recent authoritative paper by Dr Stephen O'Brien, a consultant psychiatrist, refers to documented accounts of psychological reactions to extremely stressful conditions throughout history. It starts with Arthurian legends (vision and distress) and continues through the Fire of London to the First World War (shell shock), more recent wars (combat fatigue) and other well-publicised disasters.

What price was put on Mr Vernon's past and continuing psychological disability? £37,500. Too much, some have said. Surely not.

> 'Every parent's nightmare became a reality'

It is often forgotten that large compensation awards include a number of different items, each of which was subjected to intense scrutiny by the court.

A global figure is not awarded in the manner of awards dictated by jurors in defamation cases. It was accepted that Mr Vernon had been a successful businessman, had not worked since 1986 and was unemployed and unemployable. For past and future loss of earnings he was awarded approximately £950,000. On a finding that he was helpless and dependent, approximately £131,500 was awarded for past and future care.

Too much? No. This case illustrates that victims with "psychological damage" will receive compensation on the same basis as victims with more obvious physical injuries. I am confident that fair-minded and informed members of the public would not wish to differentiate between the two.

Where do we go from here? For Mr Vernon his long wait for compensation continues. It is highly likely that his case will go to the Court of Appeal, where the insurance company will seek either to extinguish or reduce his award.

For the insurance industry, this case will serve as a timely reminder that the courts are increasingly willing to recognise that the financial and other consequences of "psychological" disabilities should be fully compensated. Suggestions that the floodgates have been opened are wrong. The same old principles will apply, and quite rightly the legal and medical merits of each case will be scrutinised.

The American compensation system has not crossed the Atlantic. Any change in the system would be through primary legislation after lengthy consultation and debate. The Law Commission is already looking closely at this area of the law.

Mr Vernon's case will be remembered by the legal profession for one other important reason. In the light of recent statements from Lord Justice Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, and in anticipation of the recommendations of Lord Woolf, it is highly unlikely that future cases involving the assessment of damages will last 70 days.

After 63 days, Mr Justice Sedley indicated an approach which has now been adopted elsewhere. The point had come, he said, when it was not only realistic but necessary in the interests of justice to lay down a timetable for the remaining evidence. This meant that the length of the trial would not be determined by the length of counsel's examination of witnesses. Instead, a segment of the trial would be allocated in the light of the anticipated needs of the case.

This will mean court control during the trial and shorter, cheaper, trials. In future, the parties will expect their advocates to throw enough punches within a limited number of rounds to achieve victory. By this process, I believe many more litigants will be able to afford to pursue their existing legal rights. Adequate compensation... shorter and cheaper trials. What's wrong with that?

● *The author is head of the health and safety unit at Osborne Clarke, Mr Vernon's solicitors since 1990*

SOUTH WEST NEWS SERVICE

Peter Vernon: awarded £1.1 million but his long wait for compensation is not over yet

Sin bins not a cure for young offenders

Last week, Michael Howard said he was "on course" to have the new secure training units for 12 to 14-year-olds up and running by the end of this Parliament. Planning permission had been granted for two, Cookham Wood and Gringley, and tenders would be going out within weeks. For the other three planning permission was at an advanced stage.

It is only three years since the last Criminal Justice Act came into force and now magistrates are going to have to grapple with yet another one. Many of us will welcome the power to remand 12 to 14-year-olds to secure accommodation without the local authority having to request it first. We are far more worried about secure training centres. One of the most contentious sections of the Act, which the Lords tried and failed to amend, is the new Secure Training Order for persistent offenders aged 12 to 14 which will last between six months and two years. Half at a secure training centre and half under close supervision in the community.

PAULA DAVIES

Accepting that there are a few children who habitually re-offend, most magistrates see the use of secure accommodation as the sensible means of controlling them. And since the Department of Health is going to provide capital funding for some 170 new secure places by the end of 1995, it would seem logical to build on these and on community-based punishment. No one could provide me with any information as to when the five secure training centres would be built or the capital cost but I understand that the running costs of the centres plus the supervision aspect are expected to be some £30 million a year.

The crowning irony, of course, is that locking these children up in what are now being dubbed "Sin Bins" has been shown not to work. All the research conducted over many years has shown that, no matter what type of custodial sentence is used, re-offending remains high. It can be of little use to the law-abiding majority if these children come out and continue to commit crimes. And when you consider that eight out of ten adolescents in young offender institutions re-offend within two years, the chances that the 12 to 14 year olds won't behave similarly seem remote.

Research in Northern Ireland, on whose training schools the secure centres are expected to be modelled, show similar trends. Recently completed by the Adolescent Psychology Research Unit, it addresses the issue of serious juvenile offending. It examines juveniles in open and secure forms of custody and their subsequent re-offending in the longer term, measured by court convictions.

Based on a sample of some 1,400 children and young people taken between 1972 and 1990, the report shows that within one year of discharge, 30 per cent of those from open units are reconvicted while 37 per cent are reconvicted after discharge from secure custody. After two years the discrepancy is even greater — 59 per cent of those from the open units compared with 74.8 per cent of those from closed units.

Mr Howard has said that the centres will provide a focused regime for youngsters who have been given every possible chance to reform. Yet the criteria for sending them "inside" — they have to have been convicted of at least three imprisonable offences and to have committed an offence while subject to a supervision order or failed to comply with one — are not as stringent as they appear. The Home Secretary also appears to have taken absolutely no notice of the report of the Policy Studies Institute which, although independent, was funded by the Home Office. The report, *Persistent Offenders*, found that only a small proportion are arrested twice in a year and the most persistent offenders account for only 10 per cent of juvenile crime. Even where young people are committing tens (or very occasionally hundreds) of crimes, they rarely do so for longer than a few months.

Many of them were found to have disrupted family lives, high levels of truancy and exclusions from schools. Nearly half were known to social services and, of that half, a quarter had experienced ten or more placements or changes in care arrangements.

They are sad, chaotic in their habits, and bored. As one colleague remarked after dealing with an apparently compulsive offender: "What this kid needs is loving and responsible parents." This is the area in which funds should be invested. Apparently funding for youth work in community-based punishment has already decreased so the chances of funding community schemes to help inadequate families seem small.

The Home Office is investing in pre-school programmes and in a report last year the Family Policy Studies Centre recommended the teaching of parentcraft as a way of helping to prevent juvenile crime. The most imaginative — if obvious — approach, however, has been made by a charity called Home Start. There are now 148 Home Start schemes operating in the United Kingdom. Using trained volunteers from the local neighbourhoods who visit to help families on request, these schemes are genuine examples of care in the community.

● *The author is a magistrate who sits in a juvenile court*

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INS AND OUTS

Bring in the clients

ELIAS Freeman, tax and immigration specialist solicitors in London, have launched a travel programme for clients. The firm's lawyers will travel to clients in their home country, then bring them back to Britain, and introduce them to accountants, relocation companies, estate agents and other advisers to discuss whether they should move here. Entertainment, travel and hotel arrangements — plus a two-day trip to the Channel Islands — are part of the package, but each one is tailor-made. David Freeman, a partner, says: "Our foreign clients expect us to deal with all aspects of their lives. The tour is a natural progression from this service." The cost? From £2,500 upwards.

Key positions

LOVELL White Durrant, the City law firm, has appointed a woman managing partner. Lesley MacDonagh, 42, is thought to be the first woman to hold such a post in the top ten firms. Ms MacDonagh, a senior partner in the firm's property practice, joined in 1978 and became a partner in 1981. She is one of eight women on the 75-member council of the Law Society.

Chambers music

THE chambers of Michael Burton, QC, are the first to win a coveted Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme award. It comes for their sponsorship of the concert peformance of *Dido and Aeneas* by The King's Consort at the Wigmore Hall this Thursday as part of the Purcell Tercentenary Festival.

On the move

THE market in lawyers' jobs is picking up. Hugh Kelly, head of personnel at City law firm Ashurst Morris Crisp since 1989, this week sets up a legal recruitment firm, Kellyfield Consulting. His co-founding director was formerly a corporate lawyer at Freshfields, before going for two years to Quarry Dougall. A second legal recruitment consultancy — this time to specialise in partnership appointments — has also been launched. Tomkins, set up by Anthony Tomkins, founder of the Charles Fellowes Partnership and a former barrister, is responding to what he sees as "an unprecedented demand for partner level service".

Wheeling on

ONLY Fools and Horses made the Reliant Robin, favoured transport of the Trotter family, famous. That fame did not save Reliant Motors which went into receivership. But the company has now been rescued, by another Trotter. Avonex Group Ltd, which recently bought Reliant Motors, is advised by Andrew Trotter, a partner at Brighton law firm Donne Mileham & Haddock, who gets teased about his name. "I have had a fair amount of stick. It has even been suggested that all my partners should drive the cars," he says.

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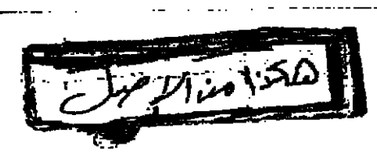


This essay by **Iain Pester** won *The Times* Law Awards, sponsored by Norton Rose M5 group

The needs of a successful justice system

Any truly successful justice system must satisfy three requirements. It must be accessible: those who wish to resort to the courts must be able to do so without fearing that the costs of litigation will prove prohibitive. It must be rapid: it should reach a verdict quickly so that both plaintiff and defendant know where they stand in the eyes of the law. And it must be just: at least, as just as possible in dealing with an imperfect world, in balancing the interests of commerce and the consumer, of the large conglomerate and the individual.

These three requirements are *enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights in Article 6(1)*, but there is increasing perception that the British civil justice system is not achieving *them. How can our justice system* better fulfil these requirements? Improving the speed at which our courts work requires two institutional changes. Judges must be allowed to play a more interventionist role in structuring the progress of justice in the courts. They should set a firm timetable for various stages of the trial, including a specific date for the hearing.

A system of pre-trial conferences (PTCs) has already been introduced in some common-law jurisdictions. These allow a judge to meet with the barristers of the contending parties to agree on the issues to be *raised and the experts to be called.* In order not to prejudice the judge presiding at the trial, a different judge should preside at the PTC.

Judges should also be allowed to *limit the amount of time allotted to* barristers for oral submissions and rely more on written submissions received earlier. There is no need for lengthy expositions by barristers of the issues involved, particularly when the case is not being tried by jury. A room full of expertly and expensively trained legal specialists, if they have been well briefed beforehand, can grasp what is at stake after listening to an oral submission of no more than 30 to 45 minutes.

Yet merely streamlining the progress of a trial is not enough. Consumers of legal services must be *given more choice by the* development of alternative legal services. This process is proceeding in Britain but should be more actively encouraged. The range of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (ADRs) is vast, from Japanese claim centres which deal *with car-accident cases*, to American arbitration companies, where retired judges adjudicate commercial disputes.

These services are very valuable, *subject to two provisos. They must* not be seen as a replacement for the courts but as an alternative to *them. If a party is unhappy with the* decision of the private arbitration system, he or she should be allowed to resort to the courts. Furthermore, any ADR system set up in this country must be effectively regulated to ensure that it is impartial and *meets standards of professional* integrity similar to those provided by barristers and solicitors. In this area, choice is the key principle. Parties must not be ordered to *resort to arbitration. Yet it should* be available to those who desire it.

Developing alternatives to litigation and giving judges a more active role to play will help the *requirement of rapidity. But what* of accessibility? As the legal aid budget continues to shrink, access to the courts is in danger of becoming available only to the *wealthy and the poor. Two meth*ods should be used to combat this trend. The first is a "pay-in" fund allowing applicants to receive legal aid if they agree to pay a percentage of damages they might win back *into the fund.*

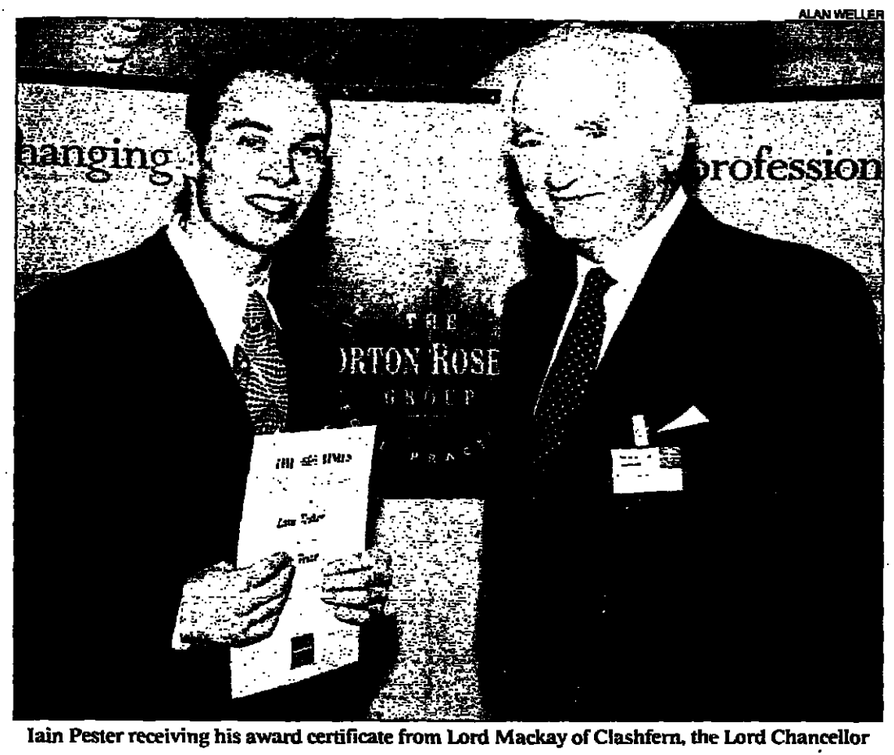
Thus, in return for financial support in bringing their case to court, today's litigants would help tomorrow's litigants. Applications *for legal aid would be examined to* disqualify cases that have little chance of success. This would ensure that the system would be self-financing, as well as avoiding *thoughtless litigation.*

The second is a system of contingency fees. The thought of contingency fees usually makes British lawyers cringe, as it raises the spectre of the frenzy of litigation *seen in America. This is a false* analysis. The problem is not contingency fees *per se;* rather, it is the excessive and punitive damages awarded by American juries. In *societies such as Britain, where* more reasonable damages are awarded by judges and the losers must pay the winners' legal costs, an overly litigious society is unlike*ly to develop. Another sensible rule* would be that where a defendant makes a firm pre-trial offer of damages which the plaintiff turns down, if the plaintiff is then awarded a lesser settlement by the *court, he should pay the defen*dant's legal costs.

Accessibility, rapidity and justice are often thought of as mutually exclusive. A system that enables *anyone to bring an action may find* itself dealing with a flood of litigation, clogging the courts and encouraging lawyers to drag out the process. On the other hand, if *litigation is discouraged, then* going to the courts becomes the privilege of those with deep pockets and the individual loses a valuable weapon with which he can challenge the abuses of the powerful.

Yet closer examination reveals that these three requirements are actually interdependent. If the machinery of justice is so slow that the courts become clogged, accessibility suffers; and interminable court cases are not just. Increasing rapidity makes more room for other cases, and a more accessible and rapid system is more just. By furthering both rapidity and accessibility our civil justice system could better satisfy the needs of all its consumers.

ALAN WELLER



Iain Pester receiving his award certificate from Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor

AWARD WINNERS

IAIN PESTER, a graduate in *Russian studies at Toronto University*, who is now studing law at Merton College, Oxford, took the top prize of £3,000 in this year's *Times* Law Awards sponsored by the Norton Rose M5 group, with his essay: "How can the civil justice system satisfy its consumers?" Mr Pester, 23, will work with Norton Rose at one of their offices abroad as part of his prize. Before receiving his award from Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, at a reception hosted by Tony Kay, chairman of Norton Rose M5, he said: "I think this competition, which gives people the chance to contribute to the debate on civil justice, is very important. Everyone agrees civil justice is not meeting people's needs."

There were 170 entries. Second prize of £2,000 went to Antony Fleat, a second-year law student at Oxford Brookes University; and third prize of £1,000 to Joel Wheeler, *at the College of Law*, Chester. The three runners-up, Seamas Gray, Adam Scarrott and David Stone, each received £250. The other finalists, who received £50 each, were: Ross Weeden, Christine Hayes, Jude Durr and Claire Hinchliffe. The judges were Lord Mackay, Lord Woolf, who is inquiring into civil justice, Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, and Jonathan Barclay, then Chairman of Norton Rose M5 Group.

Getting sleeker all the time

Jo Carr looks at the difficulties facing in-house lawyers across Europe

In-house lawyers working for companies and firms across Europe are trying to work out how to improve their departmental efficiency as the drive to cut costs continues.

How are they measuring up to *this challenge? When compiling* a listing of more than 2,000 of Europe's leading in-house lawyers for European Counsel Direct, we asked them how they viewed their future role and their changing approach to management.

The message from the results is clear. The days of assuming that because there are no complaints there are no problems are gone. In-house lawyers will have to improve productivity. To do that they will have to become more focused and put systems in place to measure whether they are achieving their objectives.

Dr Beat Hess, general counsel at Asea Brown Boveri in Switzerland, says: "By the year *2000 the volume of* legislation and the increasingly international nature of business will be *such that there will* be an even greater demand for legal advice. In spite of this companies will still want to reduce *the size of their legal* departments."

> Firms will have to put out work to external lawyers

So the pressure on lawyers to increase their productivity and improve their problem-solving *skills will increase, he says.* Julian Armstrong, general counsel at Esso UK plc, agrees. He predicts that over the next five years the pressures on his legal department will include "reducing operating costs, in particular the fixed costs of employees. The value added in return for those fixed costs will be crucial."

Stephen Allott from McKinsey & Co agrees: "In-house lawyers have to contribute to the success of the business by helping it make money." Over 70 per cent of European legal departments are centralised, but now the trend is going in the opposite direction. Dr Fabio Moretti, general counsel of Benetton Group, says: "It will become more and more important to decentralise the legal department in order to integrate lawyers more fully with the business."

The use of technology is helping to achieve this without jeopardising the united approach which is the strength of centralised departments. Cable *& Wireless operates its legal* department on a functionally linked, decentralised basis. It is developing a computer database which will link the lawyers worldwide, creating a "virtual department".

The survey brings some good news for lawyers in *private* practice. At present European companies aim to do an average of 85 per cent of their company's legal work in-house, although *that figure is re*duced to 71 per cent in the UK. However, says Wilhelm Schlaus, general *counsel at Deutsche* Bank AG: "In the best case scenario legal departments will either maintain *their present size or* grow only moderately. They will have to balance the increase in their workload by out-sourcing *more work to external lawyers.*" Those external lawyers will also have to change the way they operate. Says Hans Peter Frick, general counsel of Nestlé in Switzerland: "Specialist support will be obtained, not from firms which are active worldwide, but on a case-by-case basis from local specialists." They will be expected to know their clients' businesses inside out and provide cost-effective advice.

The majority of respondents measured what managers thought of their performance. British companies lagged behind their Continental counterparts in one area — the provision of language training.

● *Josephine Carr & Robert Dow are editors of* European Counsel Direct, *published today. Further details from 0171 738 2303.*

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Court of Appeal | Law Report February 7 1995 | Chancery Division

Power to detain asylum seekers

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department and Another, Ex parte Khan
Regina v Same, Ex parte Virk
Regina v Same, Ex parte Singh
Regina v Same, Ex parte Taggar

Before Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Otton and Sir Ralph Gibson

[Judgment February 3]

An illegal immigrant who subsequently sought political asylum in the United Kingdom could be lawfully detained by an immigration officer pending the determination of his asylum application.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the Secretary of State for the Home Department and the Chief Immigration Officer from an order of Mr Justice Dyson (*The Times* January 25) who had granted to each of the applicants, Rehmat Khan, Parmjeet Singh Virk, Inderpal Singh and Pal Taggar, an order that a writ of habeas corpus *ad subjiciendum* be issued to secure his release from detention under paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 2 to the Immigration Act 1971.

Paragraph 9 of Schedule 2 to the 1971 Act provides: "Where an illegal entrant is not given leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom, an immigration officer may give any [directions for his removal from the United Kingdom as] are authorised by paragraph 8(1)."

Paragraph 10 provides: "Where it appears to the secretary of state ... (a) that directions might be given under paragraph 8 or 9 ... but that it is not practicable for them to be given or that, if given, they would be ineffective ... the secretary of state may give the owners or agents of any ship or aircraft any [directions to arrange for his removal] as are authorised by paragraph 8(1)(c)."

Paragraph 16 provides: "(2) A person in respect of whom directions may be given under paragraphs 8 to 14 ... may be detained under the authority of an immigration officer pending the giving of directions and pending his removal in pursuance of any directions given."

Section 6 of the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993 provided: "During the period beginning when a person makes a claim for asylum and ending when the secretary of state gives him notices of the decision of the claim, he may not be removed from, or required to leave, the United Kingdom."

Mr David Pannick QC, Mr Robert Jay and Mr Steven Kovats for the secretary of state and the immigration officer; Mr Alper Riza, QC and Mr Arthur Blake for the first, second and third applicants; Mr Sibghat Kadri, QC and Mr Terence Gallivan for the fourth applicant.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the applicants, who admitted they were illegal immigrants, had each sought political asylum before he was detained by the immigration officer. Those applications had not yet been determined.

The immigration officer had served notices on each of them, informing him that as an illegal immigrant he was a person "who was liable to be detained pending the completion of arrangements for dealing with" him under paragraph 16, and indicating that the immigration officer proposed to give directions for his removal from the United Kingdom in due course and authorised his detention.

The applicants had contended that while their applications for political asylum were being considered, no directions for their removal could be given, by virtue of section 6 of the 1993 Act, and that therefore they were not persons "in respect of whom directions may be given" and thus not liable to be detained under paragraph 16(2).

In his Lordship's judgment the application of Schedule 2 to the 1971 Act to the applicants was demonstrable. They were illegal entrants not given leave to enter or remain. Accordingly under paragraph 9 an immigration could give such directions for their removal as were authorised by paragraph 8(1).

It was obviously not practicable that directions for removal be given now so under paragraph 10 the secretary of state could give directions requiring arrangements to be made for their removal.

By force of paragraph 16(2) pending the giving of directions, the applicants might be detained, just as pending deportation the person concerned might be detained while the appeal process was being exhausted, notwithstanding that no deportation order could be made pending appeal.

Nothing in section 6 of the 1993 Act prevented any of the applicants being persons in respect of whom directions might be given: what it prevented was the giving of directions for removal while the applications for asylum were outstanding.

While asylum was being sought the power to give directions existed, but its existence did not oblige the secretary of state to exercise it either at once or at all. The effect of the asylum applications was merely to protract the period during which in consequence of the intention to give directions for their removal the applicants were liable to be detained.

Parliament could not sensibly have intended that any illegal immigrant who was apprehended could, by claiming asylum, avoid detention unless and until his asylum claim had been investigated and dismissed. That he could then be detained would be irrelevant if he could no longer be found.

Although the immigration officer intended to give directions for the applicants' removal he could not do so pending the determination of their asylum applications.

Since there was reason to fear that unless detained they might abscond, pending the giving of directions and their removal, they had been detained. If the asylum applications were granted, they would cease to be persons in respect of whom directions might be given and the power to detain them would lapse.

The judge had come to a wrong conclusion on that issue and the writs of habeas corpus should be set aside.

Lord Justice Otton agreed.

SIR RALPH GIBSON, concurring, said that section 6 of the 1993 Act had enacted as a rule of domestic law that which had previously existed as an international obligation supported by the immigration rules laid before Parliament under section 3(2) of the 1971 Act.

Nothing was said in section 6 about detention pending a decision of an asylum claim. There was no reason which could be derived from the 1993 Act as applied to the 1971 Act to attribute to Parliament by the enactment of section 6 the intention to deprive the secretary of state of discretionary power to detain, when the facts warranted such a course, an illegal immigrant pending decision of his asylum claim.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Maliks, Manchester; K. C. Cohen & Rhodes, Leeds.

Corporation tax scheme valid

Piggott (Inspector of Taxes) v Staines Investments Ltd

Before Mr Justice Knox

[Judgment January 31]

The anti-avoidance principles laid down by the House of Lords in *W. T. Ramsay Ltd v IRC* ([1982] AC 300) did not apply to transactions undertaken by BAT Industries plc to remedy its inability to recover large amounts of surplus advance corporation tax (ACT).

Although the various transactions were "preordained" and effected solely for tax mitigation purposes, they could not be treated as a composite whole in a way which excluded the right to claim repayment under the provisions of section 239 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Mr Justice Knox so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal brought by the Crown by way of case stated from a determination of a special commissioner (Judge Stephen Oliver, QC) that the claim made by Staines Investments Ltd under section 239(3) for repayment of £58,609,778 was a valid claim.

BAT Co Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of BAT Industries plc (BAT), received dividends from overseas subsidiaries and paid dividends to BAT.

BAT Co Ltd was liable for paying ACT but its liability for corporation tax was reduced by double taxation relief in respect of overseas taxes. As a result BAT Co Ltd found itself paying "irrecoverable" ACT.

BAT took steps to remedy the inability to recover tax. It acquired a dormant subsidiary of Tesco plc, Staines Investments Ltd, a company that had paid mainstream corporation tax: amounts potentially available for carry-back under section 239(3). The purpose was to channel the dividends from BAT Co Ltd to BAT via Staines.

Four steps were implemented: (1) In February 1991 BAT purchased the share capital of Staines, (2) BAT transferred its 100 per cent shareholding in BAT Co Ltd to Staines in exchange for an issue of shares, (3) In December 1991 BAT Co Ltd paid Staines a dividend of £176,641,428 and (4) Staines paid a dividend of £176,682,678 to BAT.

Mr Alan Moses, QC and Mr Michael Furness for the Crown; Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Hugh McKay for Staines Investments Ltd.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that section 239(3) of the 1988 Act permitted in certain circumstances the repayment of ACT where a company had what was called surplus ACT, that is, ACT which could not be set against the company's liability for the period in question, but had paid ACT in respect of distributions made by it in any accounting period beginning in the six years preceding that period.

The Crown contended that a proper application of the principles laid down in *Ramsay* and in *IRC v Burmah Oil Ltd* ([1982] STC 30) and *Furniss v Dawson* ([1984] AC 474) disentitled Staines from making the otherwise valid repayment claim.

The result, it was argued, was that the payment by Staines of the £176.6 million dividend to BAT in December 1991 on which Staines had paid £58.6 million ACT was one of a series of four preordained steps effected solely for tax mitigation purposes which constituted a composite transaction the end result of which was a payment to BAT of the £176.6 million which was not on its proper interpretation a dividend payment by Staines.

The commissioner in his determination had accepted the Crown's argument that the transactions were a series of preordained steps effected solely for tax mitigation purposes but held that there was no rational basis by which those four steps could be recharacterised as one composite whole in a way which excluded Staines' claim for repayment. The Crown argued against the second part of the determination and Staines against the first part.

The very experienced commissioner, and his experience included the role of leading counsel for the taxpayer in *Furniss v Dawson*, had not applied the wrong test in deciding whether or not the four steps constituted a preordained series of transactions. Nor could it be held that his conclusion that they did was wrong.

Mr Moses argued that the commissioner erred in not holding that the transactions be treated as a composite whole in a way which excluded Staines' claim for repayment. But Mr Moses had accepted that the enduring steps taken had to be taken account of and not disregarded.

Thus the share structure at the end of the preordained steps had to be recognised in the recharacterisation for which the Crown contended. That excluded any recharacterisation which ignored Staines and treated the overall transaction as a payment of a dividend by BAT Co Ltd to BAT.

The commissioner had rejected Mr Moses' argument for a recharacterisation by postulating a quadripartite contract between BAT, BAT Co Ltd, Staines and Tesco under which Staines had accepted a contractual obligation to hand over to BAT the dividend which BAT Co Ltd was to pay to Staines.

The commissioner was right. It was not possible to treat the payment by BAT Co Ltd to Staines as anything other than a dividend. If and so long as all the shares in BAT Co Ltd were held by Staines such a distribution could only be by way of dividend paid to Staines.

The application of *Ramsay* principles to the normal operation of the three-tier structure of BAT Co Ltd, Staines and BAT, which the Crown accepted as one of the enduring consequences forming part of the end result of the scheme, would be to go further than had been done in any other case in that it involved a recharacterisation of a perfectly normal and straightforward commercial transaction into a thoroughly abnormal and unusual transaction whose only merit, if that was the right word, was that it attracted a tax disadvantage. That was to go far beyond disregarding steps only taken for a tax advantage and not for any commerical purpose.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Herbert Smith.

Power to remove braziers from the highway

Scott and Another v Westminster City Council

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Waite and Sir Tasker Watkins

[Judgment January 27]

A brazier mounted on a barrow and being used to sell hot chestnuts to the public at Oxford Circus was a "thing unlawfully deposited on the highway" which the highway authority could remove forthwith under the provisions of section 149 of the Highways Act 1980.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Westminster City Council from Mr Justice Ian Kennedy who on January 20, 1994 had upheld claims by the plaintiffs, Mr James Scott and Mr George Kiczynski for the return of their braziers on the basis that their removal by council officers had been unlawful.

Section 149 of the 1980 Act provides "(1) If any thing is so deposited on a highway as to constitute a nuisance, the highway authority for the highway may by notice require the person who deposited it there to remove it forthwith and if he fails to comply with the notice the authority may make a complaint to a magistrates' court for a removal and disposal order...

"(2) If the highway authority for any highway have reasonable grounds for considering — (a) that any thing unlawfully deposited on the highway constitutes a danger ... to users of the highway, and (b) that the thing in question ought to be removed without the delay involved in giving notice or obtaining a removal and disposal order ... the authority may remove the thing forthwith."

Mr Robert Blackford for Westminster; Mr Charles P. A. Salter for Mr Scott; Mr Kiczynski did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE WAITE said that on December 14, 1993 the plaintiffs, Mr Scott and Mr Kiczynski were selling hot chestnuts from cylindrical braziers mounted on four-wheeled barrows.

They had no street trader's licence. Council officers, having formed the view that the barrows constituted a nuisance removed them.

The judge decided that the barrows were not "deposited". He said "it is stretching words beyond their natural meaning to say something was 'deposited' if (a) the person responsible for it is standing by it and (b) he has not demonstrated unwillingness to move it if asked to do so. 'Deposit' in itself has some connotation of extent in time, and connotes putting and leaving. Trading without a licence is not enough. If he went away for any length of time then it could be said that the item had been deposited."

The judge was wrong. The verb "to deposit" was a term of wide connotation apt to describe the placing of one object on another. It could be used in a limitless number of contexts. But unless the context in which it appeared required it should be used in a broad sense.

In the context of section 149 there might be borderline cases, for example it might be difficult to say that a traveller selling from a suitcase had "deposited" it by placing it on the ground.

Here the case was clear. The braziers on their barrows stationed on the highway with attendants selling from them were to be regarded as "deposited" on the highway.

The council officers had reasonable grounds for thinking that the braziers were a danger: a nuisance to those members of the public at risk of being burnt.

Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Tasker Watkins agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Colin T. Wilson; Wilson Barca.

Market determines hold-over rent

Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ Canterbury v Whitbread plc

Before Judge Roger Cooke

[Judgment January 30]

Where a lessee held over under a lease with the consent of the lessor but there was evidence that the parties were in disagreement as to the rent to be paid, there was no presumption that the rent continued to be the rent under the lease. The appropriate rent was the market rent.

Judge Cooke so held in a reserved judgment sitting as a judge in the Chancery Division on an action by the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ Canterbury, the lessor of a public house known as the Tudor Tavern for mesne profits/damages for use and occupation of the premises at a rate of £55,000 a year from the lessee, Whitbread plc.

Mr Anthony Radevsky for the landlord; Mr Louis Schaffer for Whitbread.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Whitbread was the lessee of the Tudor Tavern public house with an adjoining restaurant under a lease that expired on September 28, 1991. The lessee remained in possession of the premises for just under a year but had not as yet paid any rent.

The rent under the lease was £27,500 a year and was the sum which the lessee proposed it should pay for the period in which it had held over under the lease. The rent claimed by the lessor was £55,000, a sum paid by the tenant who succeeded Whitbread.

The lessee was a tenant at will. The initial purpose of the holding over had been to negotiate terms for a new tenancy but agreement was never reached about the amount of the rent to be paid.

The basic rule in *Woodfall, Landlord and Tenant* (volume 1, release No 27 at 6.062) was that where there was a tenancy at will at a fixed rent that rent was payable but that where there was no fixed rent an action for use and occupation might be maintained.

There were, however, two authorities which suggested that there were circumstances where in such a holding over situation the rent might be presumed to be the rent under the old tenancy. They were *Elgar v Watson* ((1842) C & M 494) and *Thetford v Tyler* ((1845) 8 QB 95).

His Lordship considered those authorities and concluded that if there was evidence that the parties were in disagreement with each other and one was in disagreement with the proposition that the old rent should be the rent payable then the presumption that the rent under the old lease continued to be payable did not apply and the value was the market rent.

He accordingly assessed the market rent at £43,560 a year. As the actual period of holding over was 358 days, the sum to be paid was £42,724.60.

Solicitors: Lee Bolton & Lee; Field Fisher Waterhouse.

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Atlético pay heavy price for Raúl Madrid's success

ROB HUGHES
Overseas Football

At 17, what does a youth know or care of the fear of failure? In Madrid, Raúl Gonzalez Blanco is helping to fill the revamped Santiago Bernabéu stadium to its 105,000 capacity and the team they now dub "Raúl Madrid" is leading the Spanish league, three points clear of Deportivo La Coruña and four clear of Barcelona in one of the last of the European leagues to maintain the system of two points for a win.

Raúl has played senior football only since November and, since then, the team he is helping to restore to lost glories has won nine and drawn two of its 11 league games, while, across the city Atlético Madrid hover alarmingly near the relegation placings. The clubs' differing fortunes are significant, for Raúl was born and bred to wear the red and white stripes of Atlético, not the pure white of their illustrious rivals, Real.

His father, an electrician and plumber, had always supported Atlético and had sent his boy to Villaverde Alto, the Atlético nursery club, in adolescence. However, though Raúl let nobody down, Jesus Gil y Gil, the irrascible president of Atlético, not content with his whimsical approach to hiring and firing coaches — with up to three or four rattling the turnstile at the Vicente Calderón stadium each season — decided to dismantle the youth team three years ago, casting aside Raúl in the process.

If it is possible to feel sorry for Gil, then now may be the time, for his own team is barren, lacking a goalscorer and the excitement and unpredictability of a young, inspiring player. Real, meanwhile, have gone from strength to strength and now value their precocious windfall at £5 million.

Furthermore, Ramón Mendoza, the president of Real Madrid, expects to be re-elected on February 19. He had put his position on the line by calling a presidential election because, before the advent of Raúl, Real Madrid was a club in crisis, beset by debts of £55 million, much of them involved in rebuilding the stadium. Now the wonderboy and his colleagues are filling that new, enlarged bowl to capacity and the profits are coming back.

Raúl's contribution is not simply a matter of the goals he scores himself — it is as much his contagious effect on the optimism of players around him. Last Sunday, he broke the deadlock when Real were being held scoreless in the Bernabéu by Sevilla, slipping Hierro's long through ball in the 61st minute through the legs of the Sevilla goalkeeper, Unzue. For him, this was a simple goal. He has invented greater ones from his role wide on the left, though probably never one like Real's second, scored in injury time by the team's left back, Mikel Lasa. Lasa, 23, had never scored for Real, but now, freed from any nervousness by Raúl's earlier effort, went beautifully berserk, stealing the ball on the edge of his own penalty area, pushing it forward once and, from ten yards inside his own half, looping it over the astonished visiting keeper. Pelé tried such a thing and missed by a foot. Maradona tried it and hit the bar. Now Lasa, unheralded, has succeeded where they failed.

Spain is, of course, one of football's heartlands and Real one of its greatest clubs. Malaysia, in contrast, is a new football frontier, with its first professional league established only last August. That league, however, has got off to an unfortunate start.

Since its inauguration, 112 players — at the last count — have been questioned by police and 71 of them have been remanded in custody in the largest bribery investigation football has known. Of those, 22, including many of the Malaysian national team, have reportedly confessed to accepting bribes relating to betting syndicates.

There is not sufficient evidence to try them in court, yet the Malaysian authorities suggested yesterday that the 22 will be sent to a remote district where, for two years, they will be under police supervision, confined to their living quarters from dusk until dawn.

Malaysia may seem a long way away, but this is the same scandal with tentacles reaching the English game, with alleged involvement in unresolved allegations of bribery against Bruce Grobbelaar, the Southampton goalkeeper. It is a small world.

Rush backs Fowler to open his Cup account

By Our Sports Staff

HE COULD have been forgiven for concentrating on purely selfish matters on the eve of tonight's FA Cup fourth-round replay against Burnley at Anfield, but yesterday Ian Rush was, typically, instead offering advice and encouragement to his heir apparent, Robbie Fowler. No matter that Rush is searching for the goal that will equal Denis Law's all-time record of 41 in the competition: Fowler has yet to break his duck and the Welshman believes that, against Burnley, his Liverpool teammate can do just that.

Saturday's FA Carling Premiership visit to Nottingham Forest marked a turn in fortunes for Fowler, who put an indifferent spell of form behind him to score an injury-time equaliser and earn Liverpool a 1-1 draw. "Robbie's all-round work was better against Forest and it was just what the manager was looking for," Rush said.

"He deserved to score because of the work he put in and I'd say it was Robbie's best all-round game of the season. Robbie closed defenders down, which made things easier for our midfield. I am sure it can be the spark he needs to get off the mark in the Cup."

Liverpool — and, in particular, their manager, Roy Evans — will hope so. "With a bit of luck, Saturday's goal will get him going," Evans said yesterday. "Everyone would have been pleased with him even if he hadn't scored, but the fact that he did could give him a new lease of life."

Anfield has been anything but a fortress in recent years to teams from lower divisions visiting in cup competitions, especially teams beginning with the letter "B". Bolton Wanderers and Bristol City have both won at Liverpool in the past two seasons and only Birmingham's frailty in a penalty shoot-out spared them a hat-trick of embarrassing exits in the FA Cup third round last month. Fowler's run of six games without a goal, his worst patch of the season, included the 0-0 draw in the original fourth-round tie at Turf Moor.

Burnley, meanwhile, have strengthened their squad by the signing the experienced Liverpool midfield player, Paul Stewart, on a month's loan. Not surprisingly, however, Roy Evans, te Liverpool manager, refused his opposite number, Jimmy Mullen, permission to field the former England man tonight.

"I obviously asked Roy the question, but I knew what the answer was going to be before I asked." Mullen said. Nevertheless, Mullen does hope to field another experienced player, Adrian Heath, if he recovers from an Achilles tendon problem.

☐ Willie Miller, the Aberdeen manager, has been dismissed — after almost a quarter of a century with the Pittodrie club. Aberdeen are placed precariously second from bottom of the Bell's League premier division, only two points ahead of Partick Thistle. His assistant, Roy Aitken, has been put in temporary charge after the Aberdeen chairman, Ian Donald's, patience ran out with Miller, who was a Pittodrie favourite as a player, lifting the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1983.

SUNIL MALHOTRA

Mason, the England goalkeeper, and Hazlitt, right, foil Kumarnandanoori during the 1-1 draw in Delhi yesterday

England short-changed by umpire

From Sydney Friskin in Delhi

ENGLAND raised their game in the Indira Gandhi hockey tournament here yesterday to force a 1-1 draw against India, the holders, in a pool A match.

Indeed, England had reason to feel that they had been deprived of a victory in the last minute. After a shot by Giles from a short corner was stopped by Anil Aldrin, the deep defender, the rebound was smashed into goal by Crutchley, but the South African umpire disallowed the goal and surprised many by awarding another short corner. The hooter was sounded before it could be taken.

After a blank first half, Edward Aranha scored for India in the 52nd minute from a move involving Dhanraj Pillay and Mukesh Kumar. The equaliser was obtained in the 64th minute from a short corner by Giles, who had skimmed the crossbar from a similar award minutes earlier.

England had the upper hand throughout. Effective tackling by Wyatt and Morrison, supported by the splendid goalkeeping of Mason, who was declared man of the match, held India in check, while Conway and Giles were conspicuous in attack.

India were subjected to much pressure in the second half and lost their rhythm. For India, Aranha, Aldrin and Jude Felix, the captain, were temporarily suspended. Woods, of England, was suspended in the first half. The draw gave England their first point in two matches.

In the earlier game, Kazakhstan reached the semi-finals by beating Malaysia 3-2. Gennady Kalinin scored in the opening minute and completed the scoring six minutes from the end. Between times, Maninderjit Singh scored twice — from short corners — to give Malaysia the lead, only for it to be pegged back by Igor Ioultchiev, the Kazakhstan captain, in the 52nd minute, also from a short corner.

For England to reach the last four, they must beat Malaysia and rely on Kazakhstan beating India.

ENGLAND: S Mason (Firebrands); J Watt (Reading), I Morrison (Old Loughtonians), S Hazlitt (Hounslow, captain), Kalbir Takher (Cannock), M Sutton (Bournville), D Woods (Southgate), G Fordham (Hounslow), N Conway (Old Loughtonians), J Lee (East Grinstead), C Giles (Havant). Positions (after two matches): Pool A: 1, Kazakhstan 4pts, 2, India 3, 3 England 1; 4, Malaysia 0

SPORT IN BRIEF

New Zealand build on Parore's century

NEW ZEALAND outplayed West Indies with bat and ball in the first Test in Christchurch yesterday. They declared their first innings on 341 for eight after a maiden Test century from the wicketkeeper, Adam Parore, and followed up with an inspired spell from the fast bowler, Danny Morrison, who removed four leading batsmen.

West Indies finished the fourth day on 102 for five after capitulating to the seam bowling of Morrison, who claimed the wickets of the openers, Williams and Campbell, as well as those of Lara and Adams. Rutherford, the New Zealand captain, contributed with a brilliant direct hit from mid-wicket to run out Keith Arthurton.

New Zealand's joy at gaining the psychological edge in the rain-hit match was tempered by an injury to the fast bowler, Dion Nash, who broke a finger while fielding, and will miss the second Test, starting in Wellington on Friday.

Japan's sun rising

YACHTING: The Japanese America's Cup challenge has claimed two significant victories in San Diego (Barry Pickthall writes). The first came on Sunday when the controversial yacht, *Nippon 94*, had a walk-over against John Bertrand's *oneAustralia* after the world-champion crew suffered damage to rigging that threatened to bring the mast down. The second success came later in the protest-room when the jury gave the much-modified *Nippon 94* the green light, overturning rules designed to limit teams to two new boats. The jury ruled there is no limit to the extent a yacht can be modified, provided that the hull is not replaced.

Lotus name races on

MOTOR RACING: The name of Lotus will, after all, survive into the new grand prix season (Andrew Longmore writes). The Pacific grand prix team, who suffered a tortuous introduction to Formula One last season, failing to qualify for the last 11 races, have bought the historic Norfolk-based team and will be called Pacific Team Lotus. The deal was finalised yesterday, though few details of the negotiations had emerged nor the purchase price. Lotus, after several troubled years, went into liquidation two weeks ago.

Super league rejected

RUGBY LEAGUE: A proposal for a 12-club super league in Australia was unanimously rejected by the 20 clubs in the Winfield Cup at a meeting in Sydney yesterday, scuppering plans for a mooted global competition (Christopher Irvine writes). The proposals would have meant closures and amalgamation of some clubs. The plan also envisaged an eventual ten-team British competition in a parallel season during the English summer, with play-offs between the top four British and Australian sides.

Captain sets up revenge

CRICKET: The England under-19 touring team gained revenge for Saturday's three-wicket defeat by beating West Indies Youth by 43 runs in the second one-day international at St Vincent on Sunday. Put in to bat, the captain, Marcus Trescothick, with 88, helped the tour team reach 215 for eight from 50 overs. West Indies then struggled against accurate bowling and superb fielding before being bowled out for 172. Trescothick and Jason Searle took two wickets each.

Faldo slips to joint ninth

GOLF: Nick Faldo finished joint ninth in the Pebble Beach national pro-am tournament in California on Sunday, after shooting a final round of 72 for a nine-under-par total of 279. Peter Jacobsen took the £930,000 first prize for the tournament, which was played over three courses. Jacobsen, 40, from Portland, Oregon, shot a final-round 65 for a total of 271, two shots clear of the field. Jack Nicklaus, in his first outing of the year, shared sixth place at ten under par.

Snow falls to Davies

REAL TENNIS: Wayne Davies, of Australia, defeated the British No 1, Julian Snow, 6-3, 6-5, 4-6, 6-3 in the final of the US Open championships in Philadelphia. Davies, the holder, started strongly, retrieving even Snow's most severely cut floor strokes on the lively court. Although Snow played positively to take the third set, the gritty Davies dug in to build an early lead in the fourth and ended the match with an ace.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

HONOLULU: Pro Bowl: AFC 41 NFC 13.

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Orlando	36	10	.783	—
New York	29	15	.659	6
Boston	18	27	.400	17
New Jersey	18	30	.375	19
Miami	16	29	.356	19
Philadelphia	14	32	.304	22
Washington	11	32	.256	23
Central division				
Charlotte	30	16	.652	—
Cleveland	27	18	.600	2½
Indiana	26	18	.591	3
Chicago	23	23	.500	7
Atlanta	20	26	.435	10
Detroit	16	27	.372	12½
Milwaukee	17	29	.370	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	34	12	.739	—
San Antonio	29	14	.674	3½
Houston	28	15	.651	4½
Denver	20	24	.455	13½
Dallas	18	26	.409	15
Minnesota	10	35	.222	23½
Pacific division				
Phoenix	36	10	.783	—
Seattle	32	11	.744	2½
LA Lakers	27	16	.628	7½
Sacramento	25	19	.568	10
Portland	23	20	.535	11½
Golden State	13	30	.302	21½
LA Clippers	7	36	.152	29

CRICKET

First Test Match

New Zealand v West Indies

CHRISTCHURCH (Fourth day of five): West Indies, with five first innings wickets in hand, are 239 runs behind New Zealand

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings
B A Young c Murray b Walsh 19
D L Murray c Campbell b Ambrose 43
A H Jones c Williams b K C G Benjamin 12
*K R Rutherford c Murray b Ambrose . 11
S P Fleming c Lara b Walsh 56
S A Thomson c W K M Benjamin b K C G Benjamin 20
†A C Parore not out 100
M N Hart c and b W K M Benjamin 45
D J Nash c Campbell b Ambrose 3
Extras (b 12, lb 5, nb 15) 32
Total (8 wkts dec) 341
S B Doull and D K Morrison did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-63, 3-92, 4-97, 5-128, 6-210, 7-328, 8-341.
BOWLING: Ambrose 31 1-12-57-3; Walsh 30-5-69-2; W K M Benjamin 33-4-94-1; K C G Benjamin 25-7-91-2. Chanderpaul 3-1-10-0; Arthurton 2-0-3-0

WEST INDIES: First Innings
S C Williams c Parore b Morrison 10
S L Campbell lbw b Morrison 51
B C Lara b Morrison 2
J C Adams c Doull b Morrison 13
K L T Arthurton run out 1
S Chanderpaul not out 18
†J R Murray not out 3
Extras (nb 4) 4
Total (5 wkts) 102
W K M Benjamin, K C G Benjamin, C E L Ambrose and *C A Walsh to bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-21, 3-49, 4-54, 5-98.
BOWLING: Morrison 15-6-33-4; Nash 5-2-11-0; Doull 9-4-24-0, Hart 14-2-32-0, Thomson 3-2-2-0.

ST VINCENT: Under-19 one-day international: England 215-8 (M Trescothick 88) West Indies 172. England won by 43 runs to level series at 1-1.

RED STRIPE CUP: Bridgetown: Trinidad and Tobago 297 and 280-7 (P V Simmons 92) Barbados 220. Roseau, Dominica: Windward Islands 263 and 151, Leeward Islands 457 (R B Richardson 122, D Joseph 102; C Cuffy 7-80) Leeward Islands win by innings and 43 runs. Belmont, Berbice: Guyana 125 and 349, Jamaica 193 and 143-7 (R Samuels 67).

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Melbourne: Victoria 572-4 declared (D M Jones 324 not out); South Australia 383 (J Brayshaw 76) and 390-6 (D Lehmann 202 not out, Brayshaw 104). Match drawn.

CASTLE CUP: Cape Town: Northern Transvaal 272 and 216 (D Payne 4-56). Western Province 286 and 203-5 (G Kirsten 85, H Ackerman 62) Western Province won by five wickets. Paarl: Boland 228 and 110. Border 218 and 121-1 (D Cullinan 78 not out). Border won by nine wickets. Bloemfontein: Orange Free State 181 and 332. Transvaal 184 and 150 (A Donald 4-36). Orange Free State won by 179 runs.

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton 1 Arsenal 3.

FA VASE: Sixth round draw: Arlesey Town v Cammell Laird; Oxford City v Canvey Island; Metropolitan Police v Belper Town; Basildon United v Rocunda Town. Ties to be played Saturday, February 25.

GOLF

PEBBLE BEACH: Men's tournament: Final scores (United States unless stated): 271: P Jacobsen 67, 73, 66, 65. 273: D Duval 72, 67, 67, 67. 276: D Love 65, 71, 71, 69; K Perry 68, 68, 67, 72. 277: P Stewart 71, 67, 69, 70. 278: J Nicklaus 71, 70, 67, 70; B Faxon 70, 64, 72, 72; G Boros 69, 66, 71, 72. 279: M O'Meara 73, 68, 70, 68, J Adams 72, 66, 71, 70; E Aubrey 70, 69, 68, 72; N Faldo (GB) 65, 72, 69, 72

HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Second division: Cambridge City 0 Bromley 2, Doncaster 4 Heleston Magpies 1, Edgbaston 2 Crosslyn 0; Gloucester C 1 Isca 2; Oxford University 3 Barford Tigers 2, Richmond 3 Neston 1; Sheffield 3 Brooklands 4; St Albans 1 Beeston 2; Whitchurch 0 Hampstead and Westminster 1.

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION TROPHY: Second round: Alderley Edge 1 Springfields 0, Bexley Invicta 2 Lincoln Imps 1; Bowden 3 Robinsons 0; Camberley 4 Sheffield 1; Coalville 2 Barclays Bank 1 (aet); Derby 0 West Derby 1; Ipswich and East Suffolk 2 Bradford 1; Lloyds Bank 1 John Player 3 (aet); Long Sutton 5 Kings Heath/Pickwick 2; Marlborough 2 Durham University 5; O Holcombians 1 Blossomfield 2 (aet), Oxton 1 Shrewsbury 3 (aet); Penzance 2 Norwich Union 3; Ramgarhia (Leeds) 3 Blackheath 4; Rotherham walkover Bradfield College; Wokingham 2 Kettering 0.

NEW DELHI: Indira Gandhi Gold Cup: Group A: Kazakhstan 3 Malaysia 2, India 1 England 1. Standings (after two matches): Kazakhstan 4pts, India 3, England 1, Malaysia 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Quebec 3 Hartford 1, Chicago 9 Vancouver 4; Buffalo 2 Tampa Bay 1; New Jersey 3 Pittsburgh 3; Anaheim 3 Los Angeles 2.

LACROSSE

MEN: South of England flags: Second round: Hitchin 6 Hillcroft 17; Croydon 4 Purley 15. North: First division: Timperley 18 Boardman and Eccles 7

NETBALL

ENGLISH COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: E Essex 45 Middlesex 52, Bedfordshire 46 Derbyshire 40; Surrey 67 Cheshire 54; Essex Mel 50 Birmingham 43. Second division: W Yorkshire 43 Warwicks 43, M Hants 35 Glos 40; Notts 44 Kent 36, Hampshire N 33 Herts 53

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Lacoste British Open championship: First round: M Smith bt A Harrison 15-0, 15-2, 15-2; N Cripps bt M Dean 15-7, 15-5, 15-9. J Prenn bt D Makey 11-15, 17-15, 17-14, 11-15, 15-7, T Sawrey Cookson bt T Barker 15-9, 12-15, 15-7, 15-0; A Orchard bt J Fensley 15-5, 17-14, 18-15; T Cockroft bt D Watkins 15-3, 15-1, 15-3; P Brake bt J Beaumont 15-6, 15-6, 15-6, A Smith-Bingham bt P Nicholls 15-11, 15-5, 15-6; R Montgomerie bt P Rosser 15-8, 15-2, 15-7 Second round: Brake bt Smith-Bingham 15-4, 15-7, 15-9; M Hue Williams bt C Bridgeman 15-5, 15-0, 15-12; R Wakely bt R Ellis 11-15, 15-5, 15-7, 13-16, 15-10

REAL TENNIS

PHILADELPHIA: US Open: Semi-finals (GB unless stated): J Snow bt M Devine 6-0, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4. W Davies (Aus) bt M Gooding 4-6, 5-6, 6-2, 6-5, 6-3. Final: Dawes bt Snow 6-3, 6-5, 4-6, 6-3.

QUEEN'S CLUB: Henry Leaf public schools old boys doubles championship: Quarter-finals: Charterhouse (N Pendrigh and J Atcheson Gray bt Tonbridge (C Fuente and R Stock) 6-3, 6-1; Canford (I Snell and I Patterson) bt Radley (C Human and M Dysdale) 6-0, 6-3, Haileybury (W Hollington and R Gunn) bt Stowe (P Jarvis and R Elmitt) 6-3, 6-3; Winchester (A Lovell and M Ward) bt Harrow (J Prenn and J Rotham) 6-2, 6-0. Semi-finals: Charterhouse bt Canford 6-0, 6-1, Haileybury bt Winchester 4-6, 6-4 (retired).

HAMPTON COURT: Oracle national mixed doubles championship: Semi-finals: C Southwell and J Prenn bt L Ronaldson and M Wolton 6-3, 6-4; F Deuchar (Aus) and J Wilson bt C Miszewska and B Clive 6-4, 6-6

TABLE TENNIS

DIJON: European Top 12 championships: Men: Final: J-O Waldner (Swe) bt E Lindh (Swe) 15-21, 21-14, 21-15, 18-21, 21-17. Women: Final: O Badescu (Rom) bt E Ciosu (Rom) 11-21, 16-21, 21-17, 21-5, 21-13

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: World Group: Durban: South Africa bt Australia 3-2 (Reverse singles). W Ferreira bt P Rafter 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2; M Ondruska bt T Woodforde 6-4, 6-2, 1-0 rtd). St Petersburg, Florida: United States bt France 4-1 (United States names first: T Martin bt G Forget 6-3, 7-6, 7-6; J Courier bt C Pioline 6-4, 6-3). America zone: Rio de Janeiro: Brazil bt Bahamas 5-0. Asia-Oceania zone: Seoul: South Korea bt Indonesia 5-0

DUBAI: Men's Tournament: First round: H Holm (Swe) bt A Corretja (Sp) 4-6, 6-2, 7-5.

MARSEILLES: Men's Tournament: First round: J Renzenbrink (Ger) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 7-6, 7-6

VAUXHALL INDOOR TROPHY: Seventh round: Edgbaston Priory 0 Cambridge 3; Lincoln 3 Lakenham 0; St Albans 0 Brentwood 3. Royal Berkshire 3 BBC 0.

YACHTING

AMERICA'S CUP, Louis Vuitton Challenge Trials. Second round: Fifth day: TAG Heuer Challenge (C Dickson, NZ) bt Rioja de Espana (P Campos, Sp) 15min 04sec; Nippon 94 (M Namba, Japan) bt oneAustralia (J Bertrand) nst: Team New Zealand (R Coutts) bt France III (M Pajot) 1:16. Overall Standings: 1, Team New Zealand, 12 points; 2 equal, oneAustralia and Tag Heuer Challenge, 11; 4, Nippon 94, 7; 5 equal Sydney 95 (S Fischer, Aus) and France III, 5; 7, Rioja de Espana, 0.

Citizen Cup Defence Trials: Young America (K Mahaney) bt Stars & Stripes (D Conner) 1.46. Overall: 1, Stars & Stripes 11 points; 2, Young America, 7; 3, America³ (L Egnol) 3

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday February 11
unless stated
Coupon No, fixture, forecast

COCA-COLA CUP
SEMI-FINAL, FIRST LEG
Not on coupons: Swindon v Bolton (Sunday)

FA PREMIERSHIP
1 Leeds v Ipswich 1
Not on coupons: Arsenal v Leicester; Aston Villa v Wimbledon; Blackburn v Sheff Wed (Sun); Chelsea v Tottenham; Crystal Palace v Coventry; Liverpool v QPR, Manchester City v Manchester United, Newcastle v Nottingham Forest; Norwich v Southampton, West Ham v Everton (Mon)

FIRST DIVISION
2 Barnsley v Tranmere X
3 Charlton v Sunderland 1
4 Grimsby v Luton 2
5 Notts Co v Southend 1
8 Oldham v Middlesbro 2
7 Port Vale v West Brom X
8 Reading v Derby 1
9 Sheff Utd v Stoke 1
10 Watford v Burnley 1
11 Wolves v Bristol C 1
Not on coupons: Portsmouth v Millwall

SECOND DIVISION
12 Blackpool v Oxford 1
13 Bourn'm'th v Brighton X
14 Brentford v Bradford 1
15 Bristol R v Cambridge 1
16 Cardiff v Leyton O 2
17 Crewe v Birmingham X
18 Peterboro v Plymouth 1
19 Rotherham v Swansea 1
20 Shrewsb'y v Wycombe 2
21 Stockport v Chester 1
22 Wrexham v Hudd'field 2
23 York v Hull 2

THIRD DIVISION
24 Bury v Barnet X
25 Carlisle v Hereford 1
26 Chest'field v Gill'ham 1
27 Colchester v Rochdale 1
28 Darlington v Wigan X
29 Hartlepool v Doncaster 2
30 Lincoln v Fulham 1
31 Mansfield v Sc'thorpe X
32 North'pton v Preston 2
33 Torquay v Scarboro 1
Not on coupons: Exeter v Walsall

UNIBOND NORTHERN
PREMIER LEAGUE
34 Accrington v Matlock X
35 Barrow v Gainsboro 2
36 Boston v Horwich 1
37 Droylsden v Buxton 2

DIADORA LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION
38 Dulwich v Hendon 1
39 Hayes v Carshalton 1
40 Hitchin v Harrow X

SCOTTISH PREMIER
41 Celtic v Hibernian 1
42 Dundee U v Falkirk 1
43 Hearts v Kilmarnock X
44 Partick v Motherwell 2
Not on coupons: Aberdeen v Rangers (Sunday)

SCOTTISH FIRST
45 Ayr v Dundee 2
46 Dunf'mline v Stranraer 1
47 St J'stone v Hamilton X
48 St Mirren v Raith 2

SCOTTISH SECOND
49 Brechin v Stenh'muir 2
50 Clyde v Berwick 1
51 Dumb'ton v Meadb'k 1
52 Q of S'outh v East Fife 1
53 Stirling v G Morton X

SCOTTISH THIRD
54 Albion v Caledonian 2
55 Arbroath v Queen's Pk 1
56 Cowdenb'th v E Stir'g 1
57 Forfar v Montrose 1
58 Ross v Alloa X

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Barnsley, Port Vale, Bournemouth, Crewe, Bury, Mansfield, Accrington, Hitchin, Hearts, St Johnstone, Stirling, Ross.

BEST DRAWS: Barnsley, Bournemouth, Crewe, Mansfield, Hearts

AWAYS: Luton, Leyton Orient, Doncaster, Preston, Buxton

HOMES: Leeds, Notts County, Sheffield United, Watford, Blackpool, Brentford, Rotherham, Torquay, Boston, Dulwich, Clyde, Arbroath

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Leeds, Notts County, Watford, Blackpool, Rotherham. Aways: Leyton Orient, Preston, Buxton. Draws: Barnsley, Bournemouth, Crewe

☐ Vince Wright

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Fontwell Park

Going: soft (heavy in places)

2.15 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Villa Park (M Perrett, 11-2), 2, Boogie Bopper (7-4 fav); 3, Mildred Sophia (9-1). 11 ran ¾l, 20l. G Wareham. Tote: £6.40; £2.30, £1.70, £2.20 DF: £7.30. Trio: £23.60 CSF: £15.08. Tricast: £78.51. No bid

2.45 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Fair Crossing (J Osborne, 9-2); 2, Mugora Beach (3-1); 3, Mediane (12-1). Do Be Have 11-10 fav 7 ran. 2l, 15l. C Egerton. Tote £5.60; £2.20, £1.80 DF: £11.10 CSF. £17.53.

3.15 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Woodlands Boy (N Williamson, 5-1 fav), 2, Catchapenny (8-1); 3, Punch's Hotel (8-1). 14 ran 2l, 25l. R Hoad. Tote: £6.40; £2.80, £3.10, £3.30. DF: £28.80. Trio: £140.60. CSF. £40.73. Tricast: £288.54.

3.45 (2m 2f ch) 1, Dwadme (B Powell, 6-1); 2, The Carrot Man (7-1); 3, Rather Sharp (11-4) Princess Hoppol 13-8 fav. 8 ran. 9l, 15l. R O'Sullivan. Tote. £8.40; £2.10, £3.10. DF: £21.00. CSF. £39.60.

4.45 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Namaste (G Bradley, 13-2); 2, August Twelfth (14-1); 3, Karar (16-1). Prerogative 7-2 jt-fav. 13 ran. 12l, 1½l R Hoad. Tote: £9.90; £3.20, £4.10, £5.20 DF. £46.30. Trio: £269.40 CSF: £85.82. Tricast: £1,271.86.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £5,455.89 carried forward to Warwick today).

Placepot: £405.60. Quadpot: £75.80.

Market Rasen

Going: good to soft (soft in places)

1.50 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Countrymaster (D Gallagher, 16-1); 2, Uncle Kenny (4-1); 3, Padishah (8-1). Sevso 2-1 fav. 11 ran. 7l, ¾l C Egerton. Tote: £19.10; £3.30, £1.40, £2.40 DF £55.20. CSF: £80.90

2.20 (3m hdle) 1, Eriemo (A Maguire, 85-40 fav), 2, Quiet Mistress (16-1); 3, Wadada (8-1). 6 ran 3½l, 3l. W Clay. Tote £3.00; £1.90, £5.20 DF £25.60 CSF £26.65. No bid.

2.55 (2m 6f 110yd ch) 1, Sandybraes (Mr R Johnson, 4-1); 2, Ryda Again (11-8 fav), 3, General Highway (8-1). 11 ran NR Bradford Beau. 8l, dist. D Nicholson Tote: £5.70; £1.90, £1.60, £2.90. DF £5.70 CSF. £10.38.

3.25 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, In Truth (A Maguire, 9-4 fav); 2, Doradus (5-2), 3, Boston Rover (100-30). 7 ran 20l, 1½l. S Gollings. Tote: £3.70; £2.30, £1.70 DF: £4.30 CSF: £9.16.

3.55 (2m 4f ch) 1, Dark Oak (L O'Hara, 11-8 fav); 2, Sprowston Boy (8-1); 3, Heathnew (9-1). 5 ran. 9l, 2l. J Curtis. Tote: £2.20; £1.60, £1.70. DF: £1.30. CSF £11.03.

4.25 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Cash Chase (M Brennan, 7-2); 2, Isabeau (8-1); 3, My Swan Song (11-2) Tristan's Comet 5-2 fav 9 ran. 4l, 14l. O Brennan. Tote: £4.60; £2.00, £1.60, £2.20. DF £11.30. Trio. £25.50. CSF. £30.27. Tricast: £138.32.

Placepot: £122.50. Quadpot: £5.90.

Southwell

Going: standard

1.30 (7f) 1, Aquado (J Quinn, 20-1); 2, At The Savoy (7-4 fav); 3, Bogart (7-2). 9 ran. NR: Sharpening Hd, 8l A Forbes Tote. £34.70; £5.00, £1.10, £1.50 DF: £24.20 Trio: £116.50. CSF: £53.19. Tricast: £142.19.

2.00 (1m 3f) 1, Ashover (Kimberley Hart, 14-1), 2, Mr Towser (17-2); 3, Imperial Bid (100-30) Palacegate Jo 1-2 fav 7 ran. 1½l, 5l. T Barron. Tote: £20.90; £4.20, £3.60. DF: £54.40. CSF: £108.90.

2.30 (1m) 1, Roar On Tour (R Cochrane, 8-4 fav); 2, Cicerone (11-4); 3, Major Mouse (17-2). 5 ran. 3l, 2½l Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £2.20; £1.80, £1.70 DF: £2.10. CSF: £5.55.

3.00 (7f) 1, Quinzi Martin (T Williams, 9-2); 2, Tilly Owl (5-1); 3, Matthew David (8-1). Achilles Heel 9-4 fav, 9 ran Nk, 6l. D Haydn Jones. Tote: £4.70; £1.60, £1.60, £1.80 DF: £18.00. Trio: £21.50. CSF: £28.75 Tricast: £162.70

3.30 (6f) 1, Montague Dawson (S Drowne, 20-1); 2, Always Grace (7-2); 3, Meme Le Bow (6-1). Jatmald 11-4 fav. 8 ran. 1¼l, ½l. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £37.90; £5.60, £1.70. £2.10. DF. £60.10. CSF: £95.35.

4.00 (6f) 1, Bella Parkes (Alex Greaves, 6-1); 2, Sea Devil (11-2); 3, Bold Aristocrat (16-1). Jamaica Bridge 7-4 fav. 16 ran 2½l, hd. D Nicholls. Tote: £5.20, £2.30, £1.70, £7.30. DF: £12.50. CSF: £40.37. Bought in 4,400gns.

4.30 (2m) 1, Flashman (Mr J L Llewellyn, 12-1); 2, Castle Secret (8-1); 3, Borocay (5-4 fav). 15 ran. 1½l, 2l. B Llewellyn Tote: £14.80; £4.80, £3.20, £1.10. DF £36.40. Trio: £12.60. CSF: £104.45. Tricast: £191.77.

Placepot: £470.40. Quadpot: £10.50.

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 44

SERTAO

(b) In geography, the name of an arid, barren region, characterised by Caatinga, in the interior of Pernambuco and neighbouring states in northeast Brazil; also applied to other areas in Brazil of similar character. From the Portuguese *sertão*. "The physical landscape of northeast Brazil consists of three major divisions: marginal lowlands; *sertão*, parched uplands of brushwood and grasses; serra, elevated mountain zones."

SIVAN

(a) The ninth month of the Jewish year, though named third in the traditional month-list, corresponding to the latter part of May and early June. An adaptation of the Hebrew *sīwān*. W. Whiston's translation of Josephus's *Jewish War*, 1737: "This fight happened upon the twentieth day of the month Desius (Sivan)."

TOADO

(c) A poisonous puffer-fish of the family Tetraodontidae. Australian slang. "Few fish in the sea pack such deadly poison as the toadoes."

WITBLITS

(c) Home-brewed brandy, a strong and colourless raw spirit. Afrikaans, an irregular formation from the Dutch *wit* white + German *blitz* lightning. "In cases of snakebite people on the platteland have always run for the witblitz."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Rxb2! Qxb2; 2. Qxc8+! Nxc8; 3. d7 and the pawn queens.

ROBIN MAYES

Trainers, from left, Bailey, Gifford, Pipe, Henderson and Nicholson join the sponsor's chairman, Patrick Martell, third left, at the Grand National lunch

Class holds key to National riddle

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

FOR years it was *the* National Lottery. Remember Foinavon in 1967 and Tipperary Tim in 1928, both 100-1 outsiders who obliged at Aintree? And more recently there were Last Suspect at 50-1, and Little Polveir and Maori Venture at 28s. Nowadays Camelot offers the longshots every Saturday and those who fancy backing the winner of the Martell Grand National this year may have to look for more obvious, shorter priced, chances.

By common consent, the 1995 running of the greatest steeplechase in the world looks set to attract the classiest field since the race was first run in 1839 — and won by a horse called Lottery.

The last four Cheltenham Gold Cup winners are included in the 82 entries, along with Miinnehoma, who carried the colours of Freddie Starr to success at Aintree 12 months ago, and Algan, winner of the King George VI Chase at Kempton.

"Like it or not, the Grand National is becoming year by year the top horses' race," Christopher Mordaunt, the senior jumps handicapper, said yesterday as his weights for the 4½-mile chase were published.

Some, however, do not like it, notably Josh Gifford, a confirmed traditionalist. "There is one thing everybody has forgotten," he said. "This is the Grand National we are talking about. Jumping is the name of the game. Give the good jumpers a chance. The [Cheltenham] Gold Cup is for the best horses; the National is for the staying horses that jump big fences. That is what Liverpool is all about."

The subtle changes to the nature of the Grand National, brought about by easier fences and a leap in prize-money, have meant the best horses are now attracted to the race, giving punters a far better chance of finding the winner.

Mike Dillon, of Ladbrokes, said: "We may have a National Lottery but we no longer have a lottery at Aintree. It is now a very valuable long distance handicap chase with a top quality field. One of the top weighted horses will win it. This is potentially the best field to line up at Aintree and gone are the days when a horse a long way out of the handicap will win the race."

Rob Hartnett, on behalf of Coral, added: "Master Oats is the favourite for both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National, something which has happened rarely, if ever, before. The top three in our Grand National betting feature prominently in the Gold Cup betting as well, and that underlines the class of the Aintree entry."

Kim Bailey, the trainer of Master Oats, has received dozens of letters recently from punters urging him to miss the Cheltenham Gold Cup in favour of Aintree. However, he said: "We have to take the National as the second step. If we have good to soft ground at Cheltenham I will go there. Ideally, I want to go for both and if he comes out of Cheltenham in one piece we will definitely go to Aintree."

Mordaunt has again ignored the "Aintree factor", which allows him to give extra weight horses who have previously run well around the National course and there were few complaints about the handicapping from connections of the leading fancies. Veronica Cole, the owner of Dubacilla, who has been given 11 stone, commented: "I am delighted with the weight. She will not think she has got anyone on her at all."

With the weights for the race unlikely to change dramatically because of withdrawals between now and April 8, this year's Grand National is, in theory, an ideal race in which to take an early view and have an ante-post bet. However, the state of the ground on the day will be vital and with that in mind I would recommend minor investments on two runners at generous prices.

Young Hustler, first past the post last year, without his jockey, is generally available at 25-1. The Nigel Twiston-Davies-trained chaser, third behind The Fellow in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last March, is only eight years old and possesses the necessary touch of class.

Ireland has not won the race for 20 years but Nuaffe, a good third behind Jodami and Merry Gale in the Hennessy Cognac Irish Gold Cup at Leopardstown on Sunday, makes some appeal at 33-1.

GRAND NATIONAL WEIGHTS

Master Oats	9 yrs, 11st 10lb	Party Politics	11-10-2	Cool Ground	13-9-3	Romany King	11-8-11
The Fellow	10-11-10	Jassu	9-10-0	Open The Gate	10-9-3	Encore Un Peu	8-8-10
Jodami	10-11-8	Nuaffe	10-10-0	River Tarquin	12-9-3	Gold Cap	10-8-10
Miinnehoma	12-11-4	General Pershing	9-9-13	Tinryland	11-9-3	Howe Street	12-8-10
Algan	7-11-2	Riverside Boy	12-9-13	Superior Finish	9-9-2	Allezmoss	9-8-8
Young Hustler	8-11-2	Ushers Island	9-9-13	Fighting Words	9-9-1	Desert Lord	9-8-8
Dubacilla	9-11-0	Topsham Bay	12-9-12	For William	9-9-0	Native Pride	8-8-8
Deep Bramble	8-10-12	Belvederian	8-9-11	Vanton	11-9-0	Jumbeau	10-8-7
Blazing Walker	11-10-8	Givus A Buck	12-9-11	Friends of Gerald	9-8-13	Do Be Brief	10-8-6
Val d'Alene	8-10-8	Ebony Jane	10-9-10	The Committee	12-8-13	Strong Beau	10-8-6
Run For Free	11-10-7	Country Member	10-9-9	Another Coral	12-8-12	Camelot Knight	9-8-5
Chatam	11-10-6	Bishops Hall	9-9-8	Esha Ness	12-8-12	Fourth Of July	11-8-5
Earth Summit	7-10-6	Very Very Ordinary	9-9-8	Into The Red	11-8-12	Scribbler	9-8-5
Royal Athlete	12-10-6	Tartan Tyrant	9-9-7	Killeshin	9-8-12	Its A Cracker	11-8-4
Black Humour	11-10-4	Dakyns Boy	10-9-6	Mere Class	9-8-12	Over The Deel	9-8-3
Crystal Spirit	8-10-4	Sibton Abbey	10-9-6	Plastic Spaceage	12-8-12	Arthur's Minstrel	8-8-2
Double Silk	11-10-4	Errant Knight	11-9-5	Calimecha	10-8-11	Avonburn	11-8-2
Zeta's Lad	12-10-3	High Peak	11-9-5	Bari Owen	10-8-11	Claxton Greene	11-8-2
Commercial Artist	9-10-3	Garnson Savannah	12-9-4	Just So	12-8-11	Some Day Soon	10-8-2
Lusty Light	9-10-2	Mr Boston	10-9-4	Lo Stregone	9-8-11	Its A Snip	10-8-0

BETTING: Corals: 12-1 Master Oats, 14-1 Miinnehoma, 16-1 Deep Bramble, Party Politics, 20-1 Double Silk, Dubacilla, Ebony Jane, Jodami, Lusty Light, Superior Finish, Young Hustler, 25-1 Earth Summit, Garnson Savannah, Into The Red, Tartan Tyrant, The Fellow, Ushers Island, Val D'Alene, 33-1 others.

Ladbrokes: 10-1 Master Oats, 12-1 Miinnehoma, 14-1 Deep Bramble, 16-1 Young Hustler, 20-1 Dubacilla, Earth Summit, Lusty Light, Party Politics, Tartan Tyrant, 25-1 Algan, Double Silk, Ebony Jane, Jodami, Nuaffe, Superior Finish, Val D'Alene, 33-1 others.

Tote: 11-1 Master Oats, 12-1 Party Politics, 14-1 Deep Bramble, Miinnehoma, 16-1 Dubacilla, 20-1 Earth Summit, Jodami, Lusty Light, The Fellow, 25-1 Algan, Commercial Artist, Double Silk, General Persning, Into The Red, Royal Athlete, Superior Finish, Tartan Tyrant, Val D'Alene, Young Hustler, 33-1 others.

William Hill: 10-1 Master Oats, 14-1 Deep Bramble, Miinnehoma, 16-1 Earth Summit, 20-1 Double Silk, Dubacilla, Jodami, Party Politics, The Fellow, 25-1 Algan, Commercial Artist, Into The Red, Lusty Light, Nuaffe, Tartan Tyrant, Superior Finish, Young Hustler, 33-1 others

MARTELL GRAND NATIONAL
Aintree, April 8

RACING AHEAD
Robert Wright
Highlights the best value in the ante-post market

The Grand National sends once-a-year punters out in droves on the morning of the race to place their bets. However, by that time, the bookmakers' prices offer little in the way of value and there is much to be said for placing an ante-post bet. There is nothing more satisfying than to follow a selection in the build-up to a major race, watch the price shorten and cheer the horse home. The pitfall is that if your horse does not run, you lose your money, but this is reflected by the odds on offer.

Master Oats heads the betting for this year's National, at a best-priced 12-1 with Corals. He makes little appeal at this stage as he fell in the race last year, has to have soft ground and takes time to recover from races. After a hard race in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham, just 23 days before Aintree, he may not even run. Last year's winner, Miinnehoma, is another for whom soft ground is a prerequisite, and although this 12-year-old appears as good as ever, 14-1 is not generous off a 9lb higher handicap mark than a year ago.

There is better value lower down the handicap. YOUNG HUSTLER appeared to be returning to his best when fourth to Master Oats on unsuitably soft ground at Cheltenham ten days ago. A fine jumper with plenty of stamina, he was brought down by a loose horse in last year's National. A good run in the Gold Cup, in which he was third last season, will see his odds contract considerably from 25-1, and he could be vying for favouritism at Aintree in the rain stops.

The last Irish-trained winner of the National was L'Escargot in 1975, but COMMERCIAL ARTIST, trained by Victor Bowens, has a real chance to stop the rot. He has done nothing wrong in two runs in England this season, finishing fourth over an inadequate trip in the Mackeson at Cheltenham and third in the Hennessy, when trying to concede 11lb to One Man. Connections clearly like to keep the drinks cabinet full, and they have a much better chance than the 33-1 on offer to have it overflowing on April 8.

GUIDE TO THE PRICES

	Corals	Ladbrokes	Hills	Tote
Master Oats	12-1	10-1	10-1	11-1
Miinnehoma	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-1
Deep Bramble	16-1	14-1	14-1	14-1
Party Politics	16-1	20-1	20-1	12-1
Double Silk	20-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
Dubacilla	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-1
Ebony Jane	20-1	33-1	25-1	33-1
Jodami	20-1	20-1	25-1	20-1
Young Hustler	20-1	25-1	16-1	25-1
Commercial Artist	33-1	25-1	33-1	25-1

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RICHARD EVANS

Nap: DOUBLE JEOPARDY (1.40 Warwick)

Next best: Maamur (3.10 Warwick)

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Carlisle: 3.00 Kambalda Rambler, Rejonus. Lingfield Park: 3.50 Balrath Cross, Breckland, Opera Fan Warwick: 1.40 Northern Highlight, 2.10 Le Gamo 2.40 Fast Thoughts, 3.10 Sheephaven 3.40 Bear Claw, Unlucky For Some 4.40 Pendil's Delight.

WARWICK

THUNDERER

1.40 Chickawicka
2.10 Rectory Garden
2.40 Island Jewel
3.10 Maamur
3.40 RED PARADE (nap)
4.10 Double Silk
4.40 Oh So Bright

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.10 RECTORY GARDEN.

Brian Beel: 4.10 Double Silk.

GOING: SOFT SIS

1.40 RYTON JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,889: 2m) (16 runners)

101 1 STOMPIN 67 (G) (The Voice Group Ltd) Miss H Knight 11-5 ... J Osborne 88
102 CHICKAWICKA 123F (Merthyr Tydfil Auction Ltd) M Pipe 10-12 ... C Swan —
103 2 DOUBLE JEOPARDY 43 (B Satersbury) J White 10-12 ... J Railton 89
104 052 KALASADI 67 (G Lobson) Miss J Doyle 10-12 ... S Curran (3) 85
105 KIYAS 32F (R Dawson) B McMath 10-12 ... N Mann —
106 0 NO FIDDLING 10 (M Batchelor) M Wilkinson 10-12 ... J F Titley 65
107 NORTHERN HIGHLIGHT 124F (B) (Mrs J Jennings) T McGovern 10-12 N Williamson —
108 PLATINI 506F (Highflyers) G Balding 10-12 ... A P McCoy (3) —
109 SHANKAR 184F (International Plywood Plc) D Nicholson 10-12 ... W Marston —
110 TEINEIN 154F (S Sainsbury) T Forster 10-12 ... R Farrant —
111 TUKANO 116F (Mrs T McCoubrey) J Jenkins 10-12 ... B Powell —
112 0 HARMONY DAWN 20 (T Pearson) D Burchell 10-7 ... D J Burchell —
113 LIFE DANCING 111F (Saxon Cottage Partnership 2) N Gaselee 10-7 ... M A Fitzgerald —
114 MISS THE POST 119F (The Lightning Twice Partnership) D Nicholson 10-7 A Maguire —
115 NEVER SILENT 113F (P Boggis) D Gandolfo 10-7 ... D Leahy (3) —
116 RUMB 120F (T Hill) C Egerton 10-7 ... G Bradley —

BETTING: 3-1 Stompin, 9-2 Double Jeopardy, 5-1 Chickawicka, 7-1 Miss The Post, 10-1 Shankar, Rumb, 12-1 Tukano, 14-1 others.

1994: HOSTILE WITNESS 10-12 M Richards (9-4) P Hedger 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

STOMPIN beat Gold'N Shroud 30l in juvenile hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good). CHICKAWICKA, latest Flat effort, 7¾l 4th of 9 to Kayvee in conditions race at Ascot (1m, good to firm) October 1994. DOUBLE JEOPARDY 6l 2nd of 18 to Kalimyro in juvenile hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft). KALASADI 4l 2nd to Pride Of Mary in juvenile hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft) TEINEIN short-head and 2l 3rd of 5 to Ballykett Nancy in listed race at Leopardstown (1m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate Flat start August 1994. RUMB best recent Flat effort, beat Hezio 4l in 7-runner conditions race at Yarmouth (1m 2f, good) August 1994
Selection: DOUBLE JEOPARDY

2.10 PRINCETHORPE NOVICES CHASE (£4,007: 2m 4f 110yd) (16 runners)

201 F/53-52P AEDEAN 73 (S) (M Orpen-Palmer) G Enright 6-11-5 ... M Perrett 86
202 341/2 BANK PLACE 685 (S) (Burton Doors Ltd) S Sherwood 8-11-5 ... J Osborne —
203 2105-30 DIVINE CHANCE 29 (S) (R Mant-Adams) N Gaselee 7-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald 77
204 29F FEKDM 31 (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 6-11-5 ... R Supple —
205 Q/00040- FOGELBERG 295 (G) (Mrs C Kelly) K Bridgwater 7-11-5 ... N Williamson —
206 0/45/PP GRANGEDEAL ILLEGAL 43 (J Pointon) Miss S Wilton 7-11-5 ... Gary Lyons —
207 F46-05P KETFORD BRIDGE 12 (Mrs T Benge) R Dickin 8-11-5 ... D Meredith 64
208 11P10-F LE GINNO 83 (B,G,S) (Irish World Partnership) C Brooks 8-11-5 ... G Bradley —
209 0-06 LITTLE WISHFUL 22 (The Wishful Thinkers) R Dickin 7-11-5 ... R Bellamy —
210 0U0-12 RECTORY GARDEN 20 (S) (Lord Cadogan) T Forster 6-11-5 ... G McCourt 89
211 P38- SURREDELL 311P (R Hawkes) R Hawkes 6-11-5 ... R Farrant —
212 40529-4 TEKLA 29 (S) (E Lodge) A Chamberlain 10-11-5 ... B Powell 86
213 20-50 TELL THE BOYS 24 (J Nicholls/Mobley Homes) M Wilkinson 7-11-5 ... P Ward —
214 2F2220 ZAMIRAH 40 (D,F,G,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-5 W Humphreys 92
215 462FUP- DOLLY OATS 318 (R Fairs) D Nicholson 9-11-0 ... A Maguire 73
216 1/5/000 MARINERS MIRROR 24 (G,S) (E Pratt) M Scudamore 8-11-0 ... S McNeill —

BETTING: 3-1 Le Ginno, 9-2 Fogelberg, 5-1 Zamirah, 6-1 Rectory Garden, 10-1 Bank Place, Dolly Oats, 12-1 Aedean, 16-1 others

1994: RAYMYLETTE 7-11-10 R Dunwoody (4-9 fav) N Henderson 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

AEDEAN 12l 2nd of 6 to Leotard in Kempton novice chase (2m, good to soft) BANK PLACE 3½l 2nd of 7 to Romans Glen in Worcester novice hurdle (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm) March 1993. DIVINE CHANCE 22½l 3rd of 11 to Carlingford Lakes in Windsor novice chase (2m 5f, good to soft) LE GINNO in touch when fell 9th behind Percy Thrower in 8-runner Haydock novice chase (3m 4f, good to soft) RECTORY GARDEN 8l 2nd of 13 to Turning Try in 13-runner Ludlow novice chase (2m 4f, soft) TEKLA best effort last season when 1½l 2nd to Barely Black in novice chase at Worcester (2m 4f, heavy) ZAMIRAH 1½l 2nd to Sunset Again in Uttoxeter novices' handicap chase (3m 2f, soft) penultimate start.
Selection: ZAMIRAH

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Gaselee	9	34	26.5	M Perrett	7	32	21.9
M Pipe	33	129	25.6	N Williamson	10	49	20.4
D Nicholson	24	102	23.5	A Maguire	11	65	16.9
C Brooks	3	18	16.7	J R Kavanagh	3	19	15.8
Mrs J Retter	3	18	16.7	G McCourt	7	50	14.0
Mrs J Pitman	14	85	16.5	J Osborne	11	83	13.3

2.40 WHITLENGE HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,775: 2m 4f 110yd) (8 runners)

301 F2231-2 SUN SURFER 109 (G,S) (S Salesbury) T Forster 7-11-10 ... J Osborne 95
302 0-11312 ISLAND JEWEL 25 (D,S) (M Cartwright) J Bosley 7-11-4 ... M Bosley 94
303 223510 MOVING OUT 24 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S Bosher) Miss H Knight 7-10-11 M Perrett 96
304 0/6P0 AL ASOOF 24 (F,G,S) (P Redding) P Hedger 10-10-7 ... M Richards —
305 1212F-P MAILCOM 91 (D,F,S) (Mailcom Plc) Mrs J Pitman 9-10-6 ... W Marston 86
306 212611 ASK THE GOVERNOR 17 (CD,F,G,S) G Balding 9-10-3 ... A P McCoy (3) 96
307 52213F FAST THOUGHTS 27 (B,BF,F,G,S) (W Done) D Gandolfo 8-10-2 ... G Bradley 89
308 25P/01-6 DUNCAN IDAHO 20 (D,G,S) (R Callow) R Callow 12-10-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 92

Long handicap: Duncan Idaho 9-8.

BETTING: 9-4 Sun Surfer, 3-1 Island Jewel, 7-2 Ask The Governor, 6-1 Moving Out, 7-1 Fast Thoughts, 12-1 Mailcom, 16-1 Al Asoof, Duncan Idaho.

1994: SHANNON GLEN 8-11-3 D Bohan (9-1) Mrs J Pitman 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

SUN SURFER 7l 2nd of 7 to Alours in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good) ISLAND JEWEL 5l 2nd of 6 to Cyborgo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). MOVING OUT 10l 7th of 17 to Burni Imp in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft) AL ASOOF 43l 7th of 7 to Mycalo in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 11, good to soft). MAILCOM best effort last term 3l 2nd of 9 to One Man in this grade II Reynoldstown Novices' Chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft). ASK THE GOVERNOR beat High Grade ½l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, heavy). FAST THOUGHTS best recent hurdling effort 13¾l 2nd of 7 to Dantler Blanc in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f, soft) with MAILCOM (5lb better off) pulled up after 7th. DUNCAN IDAHO 49l 6th to Lucky Blue in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 4f, soft).
Selection: SUN SURFER

3.10 GEORGE CONEY CHALLENGE CUP
(Handicap chase: £4,403: 3m 2f) (10 runners)

401 16/00-66 STRONG BEAU 10 (B,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 10-12-0 ... A Maguire —
402 FP0PF-F STIRRUP CUP 42 (D,G,S) (Elite Racing Club) C Egerton 11-11-10 ... J Osborne —
403 11PPF/P GOODSHOT RICH 54 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Towler) C Brooks 11-11-4 ... G Bradley —
404 2-3F253 SPIKEY 25 (G) (S Powell) J Jenkins 9-11-3 ... N Williamson 89
405 4-43403 MAN OF MYSTERY 49 (G,S) (PCJF) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-2 ... W Humphreys 91
406 /12F-33 CELTIC BARLE 26 (D,G,S) (Mrs L Hodges) H Hodge 11-10-13 ... S McNeill 90
407 P-541F4 ROSITARY 17 (B,D,F,S) (P Winkworth) P Winkworth 12-10-5 ... C Maude 88
408 0U2FP-P SHEEPHAVEN 104 (F,G) (A Walker) T Casey 11-10-3 ... M A Fitzgerald 86
409 42-4323 MAAMUR 28 (G) (Park Industrial Supplies) C Broad 7-10-2 ... W Marston 90
410 4-20421 ITS A SNIP 32 (B,D,G,S) (The Icy Fire Partnership) C Mann 10-10-0 J R Kavanagh 84

Long handicap: Its A Snip 9-8.

BETTING: 3-1 Spikey, 4-1 Man Of Mystery, 9-2 Celtic Barle, 6-1 Its A Snip, 10-1 Goodshot Rich, Strong Beau, Maamur, 12-1 others.

1994: SUPERIOR FINISH 8-10-11 J Osborne (9-4 fav) Mrs J Pitman 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

STRONG BEAU 46l 6th of 8 to Beech Road in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft) penultimate start. SPIKEY 8¼l 3rd of 5 to Whispering Steel in handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good). MAN OF MYSTERY 2¼l 3rd of 4 to Petty Bridge in handicap chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft).
CELTIC BARLE 9¼l 3rd of 15 to Mr Flanagan in handicap chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good). ROSITARY best recent effort beat Windy Ways 30l in 3-runner handicap chase at Folkestone (3m 2f, soft). MAAMUR 31¼l 3rd of 17 to General Wolfe in handicap chase at Leicester (3m, good to soft). ITS A SNIP beat Lastothewildings 5l in 9-runner handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, heavy).
Selection: MAAMUR

3.40 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: £3,624: 2m 4f 110yd) (20 runners)

501 0-44411 EVEN FLOW 17 (D,S) (A Wates) T Casey 6-11-10 ... N Williamson 98
502 1003-1 RED PARADE 31 (CD,S) (R Peskin) Mrs J Retter-Barons 7-11-10 ... R Greene 87
503 1 SPINNAKER 52 (S) (D Stoddart) N Gaselee 5-11-10 ... J R Kavanagh 84
504 011 CALL IT A DAY 19 (S) (Mrs J Lane) D Nicholson 5-11-5 ... A Maguire 89
505 110-33 BEAR CLAW 53 (B,BF,S) (Reach Foods Ltd) O Sherwood 5-11-0 ... J Osborne 95
506 305-032 BUCKHOUSE BOY 31 (The Bawtry Boys) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-0 W Humphreys 83
507 2- COULIN LOCH 281 (Mrs L Harper) M Wilkinson 6-11-0 ... R Supple —
508 0/0-0 COUNTRY KEEPER 90 (B Ryall) B Ryall 7-11-0 ... N Mann —
509 05650-6 DUNLIR 22 (B Burston) P Redford 5-11-0 ... S Burrough —
510 10-5P FEELS LIKE GOLD 19 (S) (Independent Twice Co) M Pipe 7-11-0 ... M Perrett —
511 0-P GARNISHEE 54 (Heyfleet Partnership) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-0 ... W Marston —
512 10- KARCLEIGH BOY 364 (S) (C Everleigh) Mrs J Retter 7-11-0 Mr J Cutley (7) —
513 31-10 LUV-U-FRANK 25 (BF,S) (F Farrant) M Pipe 6-11-0 ... C Swan 74
514 34-3 PRINCE NASHA 32 (S Pedersen) K Cunningham-Brown 5-11-0 ... B Powell —
515 000-54 PURBECK CAVALIER 31 (B Curtis) Mrs J Reeter 6-11-0 ... A P McCoy (3) 78
516 34-50 THE PADRE 48 (T Shrimpton) Miss H Knight 6-11-0 ... R Farrant 79
517 0-P00 UNLUCKY FOR SOME 69 (B,S) (UPS-Pirets) Mrs D Haine 6-11-0 ... J F Titley —
518 30-F YES MAN 118 (BF) (A Wright) Miss H Knight 6-11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 86
519 635-P B MY LOVELY 77 (M Brown) O O'Neill 5-10-9 ... V Slattery —
520 FRENSHAM CANYON (S Powell) J Jenkins 6-10-9 ... J Railton —

BETTING: 7-2 Even Flow, 4-1 Luv-U-Frank, 5-1 Red Parade, Call It A Day, 6-1 Spinnaker, Bear Claw, 10-1 Buckhouse Boy, 12-1 others.

1994: CUNNINGHAMS FORD 6-11-3 Mr A Harvey (6-1) O Sherwood 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

EVEN FLOW beat Prime Of Life 25l in Kempton 8-runner novice hurdle (2m 5f, heavy) RED PARADE beat BUCKHOUSE BOY (10lb better off) 14l in 24-runner maiden hurdle over course and distance (soft) with PURBECK CAVALIER (10lb better off) 8½l 4th. SPINNAKER beat He Flies By Night 1l in 20-runner novice hurdle at Nottingham (3m, good to soft). CALL IT A DAY, completed double, beat Ask For Barney 8l in 13-runner conditional jockeys novice handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, soft). LUV-U-FRANK 31l 9th of 19 to King Lucifer in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good). Previously beat Wild West Wind 5l in 15-runner NH Flat race at Uttoxeter (2m, soft) with FEELS LIKE GOLD 19l 5th.
Selection: EVEN FLOW

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.10 AIR WEDDING TROPHY HUNTERS CHASE
(Amateurs: £1,182: 3m 2f) (5 runners)

601 1/1111F- DOUBLE SILK 304 (CD,F,G,S) (R Wilkins) R Wilkins 11-12-8 ... R Treloggen (3) 89
602 315610- MY MELLOW MAN 255 (G,S) (W Gooden) W Gooden 12-12-8 ... Miss S Vickery (7) 50
603 13454-2 CAPE COTTAGE 23P (F,G,S) (D Caro) D Caro 11-12-2 ... A Phillips (7) 50
604 /131P- CHIP'N'RUN 281P (F,G,S) (F Comes) Mrs M Teague 9-12-2 ... J Comes (7) —
605 P13P- SPRUCEFIELD 311P (F,S) (M D Barlow) Mrs T Elwell 12-12-2 ... C J B Barlow (7) —

BETTING: 1-3 Double Silk, 8-1 Cape Cottage, 10-1 Chip'n'run, 12-1 My Mellow Man, 33-1 Spracefield.

1994: EASTERN DESTINY 16-11-9 A Griffith (10-1) Mrs J Griffith 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLE SILK beat Teeplanter 5l in the 5-runner Christies Foxhunter Chase Challenge Cup at Cheltenham (3m 2f 110yd, good). MY MELLOW MAN 55l 7th of 11 to Blackguard in hunter chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). CAPE COTTAGE 3l 2nd of 11 to Wild Illusion in mixed open at Tweseldown (3m, good). CHIP'N'RUN beat John's Birthday 6l in 12-runner open at Bitterley (3m, good) penultimate start.
Selection: DOUBLE SILK (nap)

4.40 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND MARES ONLY NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,508: 2m) (25 runners)

1 BUCKMIST BLUE (J Cleave) K Morgan 5-11-3 ... Mr S Walker (7) —
2 0 CERIDWEN 48 (Mrs S Greenhead) T Greenhead 5-11-3 ... Philip Hughes (7) —
3 CLAREMARIE (H Brown) W Clay 5-11-3 ... Mr B Leavy —
4 0- GAYMOOR GALE 318 (Feltr Bowness Partnership) S Mellor 5-11-3 Chris Webb (7) —
5 GUINDA (Mrs J Powell) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-3 ... Mr S Joynes (7) —
6 IVORY QUEEN (Mrs A Maddy) M Pipe 5-11-3 ... L Reynolds (7) —
7 KINGS ROMANCE (T Dancer) C Jones 5-11-3 ... A Shakespeare (7) —
8 6 KIRK'S ROSE 40 (G Simpson) Mrs M McCourt 5-11-3 ... G Tonney (5) —
9 LADY HIGH SHERIFF (Mrs M West-Thomas) T Forster 5-11-3 Mr C Ward Thomas —
10 LAMPER'S LIGHT (N Stallard) Mrs A King 5-11-3 ... R Massey (5) —
11 4 LIKASHOT 80 (D Horton) C Brooks 6-11-3 ... M Barry (7) —
12 OH SO BRIGHT (Mrs A Goodwin) O Sherwood 6-11-3 ... J A McCarthy —
13 PENDIL'S DELIGHT (B) (Mrs D Haine) Mrs D Haine 6-11-3 ... G Hogan (5) —
14 THE BRATPACK (J Kirby) J Kirby 5-11-3 ... Miss S Mitchell (7) —
15 VOOLINO (Mrs V Nock) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-11-3 ... Mr G Sheridan (7) —
16 8- WHAT'S THE JOKE 412 (D Wise) D Wise 6-11-3 ... E Tolhurst (7) —
17 CRUME CRACKER (M Pohlton) Miss S Wilton 4-10-7 ... N Willmington (7) —
18 0 FEARLESS AMY 20 (S Scarborough) K Bridgwater 4-10-7 ... D Meredith (3) —
19 4 LUCIA FORTE 17 (Mrs L Farmer) P Dalton 4-10-7 ... S Lyons (3) —
20 0 MAID EQUAL 20 (H Kapstein) M Pipe 4-10-7 ... O Burrows (7) —
21 MISS CASHTAL (Miss D Baker) Miss D Baker 4-10-7 ... Miss S Wallin —
22 0 NUNS LUCY 32 (B Pickering & J Harnes) J Pickering 4-10-7 P McLoughlin (5) —
23 RAKAPOSHI QUEEN (D Gandolfo) D Gandolfo 4-10-7 ... D Leahy (3) —
24 SORCIERE (M Henriques) G Balding 4-10-7 ... A P McCoy (3) —
25 SWANSBISH (Danebury Racing Ltd) A Cunningham-Brown 4-10-7 ... S Fox (5) —

BETTING: 7-2 Likashot, 9-2 Ivory Queen, 5-1 Guinda, 7-1 Buckmist Blue, 8-1 Oh So Bright, 10-1 Lady High Sheriff, 12-1 Sorciere, 14-1 others.

1994: BEAR CLAW 5-11-7 R Massey (8-1) D Nicholson 20 ran

Trainers shun Tote Trophy

THE Tote Gold Trophy Hurdle at Newbury on Saturday will have its smallest field since the race was instituted in 1963. Of the 31 horses left in at the previous forfeit stage, only nine were declared yesterday for the £50,000-added race which regularly attracted 25 runners or more when run under the Schweppes banner up to 1984. The acceptors are: Atours (11st 10lb), Mysilv (10-4), Trying Again (10-2), Rodeo Star (10-1), Cockney Lad (10-0), Surrey Dancer (9-13), Pridwell (9-9), Major Bugler (9-7), His Way (9-1). The minimum weight is ten stone.

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

1.30 Troy Boy. 2.00 Brave Buccaneer. 2.30 Windswept Lady. 3.00 Positive Action. 3.30 Miss Capulet. 4.00 Mutual Trust. 4.30 Go-Informal.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

1.30 WETHERALL SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,942: 2m 1f) (13 runners)

1 15-0 TROY BOY 75 (CD,S) G Moore 5-12-0 ... J Callaghan 96
2 -089 MECADO 28 (V,D,G,S) F Yardley 8-11-8 ... W McFarland 90
3 6535 CHEEKY POT 5 (V,D,BF,F,S) Denys Smith 7-11-7 ... P Niven 97
4 05-F HERE COMES TIBBY 92 (S) W Reed 8-11-0 ... T Reed 95
5 404P BELIEVE IT 10 N Waggott 8-10-9 ... Miss T Waggott 85
6 3360 LOVING OMEN 10 (S) Miss Z Green 8-10-7 ... A Lamach (3) 97
7 5PP- HUNTING COUNTRY 380 (G) J J O'Neill 11-10-7 ... L Wyer —
8 P0-P THE PIPE FITTER 10 (B) J J O'Neill 7-10-6 ... A Roche (3) 82
9 -524 LITTLE BIG 153 (F,B) J J O'Neill 8-10-5 ... R McGrath (7) 89
10 FP02 NAWTINOOKEY 10 P Monteith 5-10-2 ... A Dobbin 96
11 3-P0 MAC RAMBLER 5 N Bycroft 8-10-1 ... D Towler (7) 98
12 00P GALAXY RAIN 31 B McMahon 4-10-0 ... S Wynne (3) 95
13 4060 SPEEDY SIOUX 25 (B,G) S Chadwick 6-10-0 Miss J Thorlow 98

4-1 Troy Boy, 5-1 Nawtinookey, Cheeky Pot, 6-1 Little Big, 7-1 Loving Omen, 10-1 Mecado, 12-1 Here Comes Tibby, 14-1 others.

2.00 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £4,013: 3m) (13)

1 3F1U BRAVE BUCCANEER 10 (CD,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-3 ... P Niven 88
2 0-31 NORTHANTS 62 (D,G,S) W Storey 9-11-3 ... N Doughty 89
3 2B4U BELLS HILL LAD 10 (S) J Barclay 8-10-10 ... A Thornton —
4 0-45 GERRYMANDER 73 M Hammond 9-10-10 ... B Storey —
5 44/P MR GLEN 7 (F) H Manners 10-10-10 ... J Callaghan —
6 32P3 PARIAH S R Fisher 6-10-10 ... Richard Guest —
7 P64 RIVER BEE 10 W Reed 6-10-10 ... T Reed —
8 U362 SNOOK POINT 18 D Lamb 6-10-10 ... Mr A Manners (

Rowell glad to continue with winning formula

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

WHEREAS England yesterday confidently selected the XV which beat Ireland and France to do duty in Cardiff on February 18, the date for the next round of rugby union's five nations' championship, Wales today have the luxury and the opportunity of selecting from greater depth than of late. Since losing their opening game to France last month, Wales have seen Ieuan Evans, Nigel Davies, Nigel Walker, Wayne Proctor and Emyr Lewis restored to health.

The England management, while acknowledging a dire record in Cardiff over the last 30 years, could scarcely conceal its glee after the 21-point defeat of France on Saturday. According to Pierre Villepreux, the former France full back who has helped at several England training evenings this season, "the English are ready to play", while Don Rutherford, the technical director of the Rugby Football Union, said: "We now have the firepower, the confidence and the skill."

Jack Rowell, the England manager, believes that his squad has achieved an individual style. "In the loose, the forwards are developing a style of play which, of its type, I think is unique," he said. "I see other international teams doing bits of it, but we are in front.

"Traditionally, the runners in rugby have been the backs. Now, they are the backs, plus players like Ben Clarke, Victor Ubogu, Tim Rodber. What England are trying to do is get beyond the opposition's defensive curtain before it falls, otherwise you are in a fix. Yardage doesn't mean anything except when you are only a few yards from the tryline. Breaking down the curtain takes a bit of imagination, and we coped with that much better, say, than New Zealand did against France.

"This side is learning about itself. I hope the confidence and belief is built up and players understand that, if they are selected, only the best will do. There are other people knocking on the door where there weren't before. In the end, players choose themselves or drop themselves."

The England A team last Friday achieved against France A more direct reward from the fluid unification of backs and forwards, in which Neil Back, of Leicester, played a particularly striking role. So striking, in fact, that the flanker has been omitted from the A international against Italy at Gloucester on February 19, though Rutherford stressed that Back, Damian Hopley and, to a lesser extent, Mark Regan, were being rested because they had nothing more to prove.

While the England squad trains this weekend, representatives of the five nations will meet to discuss another proposal to move the tournament back a fortnight so that it starts in February and ends late in March. The idea is to try to ensure better playing and spectating conditions as the sport's profile grows.

England officials are also hopeful that recommendations about the use of new technology will be taken up. Rutherford would like to see referees and touch judges linked by radio so that offside can be reduced. "You can't play the advantage law unless you start from the premise that both sides are onside," Rutherford said.

France are optimistic that Laurent Benezech, the prop who was injured against England, will be fit to face Scotland on February 18. The team will be named on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the South African selectors have reduced to 34 their training squad for the World Cup this summer. There is no place in the squad which meets next week in Johannesburg for five players who toured in Britain last autumn: Chris Badenhorst, Jacques Olivier, Tinus Linee, all backs, and Ian Hattingh and Elandre van der Bergh.

ENGLAND TEAMS

ENGLAND (v Wales): M J Catt (Bath); T Underwood (Leicester), W D C Carling (Harlequins, captain), J C Guscott (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester/RAF), C R Andrew (Wasps); K P P Bracken (Bristol), J Leonard (Harlequins), B C Moore (Harlequins), V E Ubogu (Bath), T A K Rodber (Northampton/Army), M O Johnson (Leicester), M C Bayfield (Northampton), B B Clarke (Bath), D Richards (Leicester). Replacements: J E B Callard (Bath), P R de Glanville (Bath), C D Morris (Orrell), G C Rowntree (Leicester), R G R Dawe (Bath), S O Ojomoh (Bath).

ENGLAND A (v Italy A): P Hull (Bristol); J Sleightholme (Bath), N Greenstock (Wasps), S Potter (Leicester), H Thorneycroft (Northampton), J Harris (Leicester), S Bates (Wasps, captain), R Hardwick (Coventry), R Cockerill (Leicester), D Garforth (Leicester), L Dallaglio (Wasps), G Archer (Newcastle Gosforth), S Shaw (Bristol), R Hill (Saracens), A Diprose (Saracens). Replacements: W Greenwood (Harlequins), P Challinor (Harlequins), M Dawson (Northampton), C Clark (Bath), M Regan (Bristol), G Wilkins (Wasps).

ENGLAND EMERGING PLAYERS (v Romania A): M Mapletoft (Gloucester); N Beal (Northampton), G Childs (Wasps), P Mensah (Harlequins), S Hackney (Leicester), P Grayson (Northampton), R Kitchin (Harlequins); D Molloy (Wasps), G Adams (Bath), D Hinkins (Bristol), R Jenkins (Harlequins), M Haag (Bath), R West (Gloucester), D Eves (Bristol, captain), C Sheasby (Harlequins). Replacements: P Holford (Gloucester), R Butland (Bath), M Olsen (Bath), D Crompton (Bath), G Botterman (Saracens), M Corry (Newcastle Gosforth).

Blewett, the Australia all-rounder, celebrates his second century in his second Test match in Perth. Report, page 44

Chapple strikes to set up whitewash

By Our Sports Staff

GLEN CHAPPLE produced a burst of three for five in 16 balls yesterday to put England A within reach of a 3-0 test series whitewash in India. Chapple's superb seam bowling, taking his Chandigarh match haul to eight wickets, and his series tally to 18, left India A struggling at 136 for eight in their second innings.

With two days to go, that means a lead of only 156 on a pitch becoming slower but not appreciably more difficult on which to bat.

A stand of 81 between Rahul Dravid and Amol Muzumdar was threatening to take the game out of England's reach when Chapple intervened. The Lancashire bowler, 21, has been the real find of the tour — and his display offered some consolation to the chairman of selectors, Ray Illingworth, as the senior side slid towards final humiliation in Australia.

First Chapple nipped a ball back through Dravid's defences to have him leg-before for 47 and from 114 for three, the Indian innings was suddenly plunged into disarray.

Chapple was denied what looked a certain leg-before dismissal when the new batsman, Rizwan Shamshad, was on nought but in his next over a leg cutter, and a good diving catch by the wicketkeeper, Keith Piper, sent the same batsman on his way.

Chapple's next victim was Avinash Vaidya, caught behind again by Piper for nought. England A sensing that this hard-fought contest was swinging their way again, kept up the pressure with two more wickets before the close.

A brilliant pick-up and throw from mid-on by Dominic Cork hit the wicketkeeper's stumps direct to run out Utpal Chatterjee after Muzumdar attempted to take a quick single.

Min Patel, the slow left-arm spinner, was rewarded for his long, accurate spell from the pavilion end when Paras Mhambrey was bowled behind his legs for four as he attempted a sweep.

Muzumdar remained 41 not out but must go for his shots today if India are to set Alan Wells's team a stiffer target. Their fightback in the final session showed just how determined England A are to complete a clean sweep of test victories following their wins in Bangalore and Calcutta.

Chapple said: "I just tried to bowl straight and things worked out for me. The wickets certainly came just at the right time because their fourth-wicket pair were beginning to get away after we had reduced them to 33 for three early on."

Chapple had begun that initial collapse by having the opener, Gagan Khoda, leg before for nought in his opening over and he finished the day with overall figures of four for 30.

England A had resumed their first innings on 145 for seven, with a determined ninth-wicket partnership of 56 between Patel (35) and Piper (30) boosting their total to 209.

CHANDIGARH SCOREBOARD

INDIA A: First Innings 229 (R Dravid 59; G Chapple 4 for 60)

Second Innings

*V S Rathore lbw b Patel	18
G Khoda lbw b Chapple	0
S C Ganguly c Piper b Cork	8
R Dravid lbw b Chapple	47
A A Muzumdar not out	41
R Shamshed c Piper b Chapple	4
†A Vaidya c Piper b Chapple	0
U Chatterjee run out	6
P L K Mhambrey b Patel	4
K Singh not out	2
Extras (b 3, lb 1, w 1, nb 1)	6
Total (8 wkts)	136

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-23, 3-33, 4-114, 5-120, 6-120, 7-126, 8-132.

BOWLING: Cork 10-4-26-1; Chapple 14-1-30-4; Patel 27-11-34-2; Johnson 7-0-19-0, Stemp 8-1-23-0

ENGLAND A: First Innings

N V Knight b Singh	40
J E R Gallian c Vidya b Ganguly	11
D L Hemp c Dravid b Singh	19
*A P Wells c Shamshad b Chatterjee	42
P N Weekes c Shamshad b Chatterjee	15
D G Cork b Mhambrey	9
†K J Piper lbw b Ganguly	30
G Chapple c Vidya b Mhambrey	0
R L Johnson lbw b Mhambrey	4
M M Patel c Muzumdar b Mhambrey	35
R D Stemp not out	0
Extras (lb 2, nb 2)	4
Total	209

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-47, 3-103, 4-119, 5-138, 6-143, 7-143, 8-153, 9-209.

BOWLING: Mhambrey 20.1-6-63-4; Ganguly 10-0-32-2; Padmanabhan 10-3-40-0; Singh 20-10-35-2; Chatterjee 22-9-37-2.

Umpires: K Parthasarthy and P R Choudhary.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Cup
Fourth round replay
Liverpool v Burnley (7.45)

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Notts County v Bolton (7.45)

Second division
Bradford v Bristol Rovers (7.45)
Leyton Orient v Blackpool (7.45)
Shrewsbury v Plymouth
York v Wrexham

Third division
Doncaster v Gillingham
Scarborough v Lincoln

Auto Windscreens Shield
Northern Section
Quarter-final
Wigan Athletic v Crewe

Semi-final
Bury v Rochdale

Vauxhall Conference
Stafford v Halifax (7.45)

Tennents Scottish Cup
Third round replay
Clyde v Dundee Utd
Stenhousemuir v St Johnstone
Hearts v Clydebank
Bell's Scottish League
Third division
Alloa v East Stirling

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Derby County v Leeds United (7.0); Evenon v Rotherham United (7.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City v Charlton Athletic; Queens Park Rangers v Swindon Town (at Harrow Borough, 7.0), Tottenham Hotspur v Crystal Palace (at St Albans City, 2.0); West Ham v Norwich (7.00).

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Gloucester v Cambridge City (7.45); Gravesend and Northfleet v Hastings. Midland division: Bedworth United v Redditch United; Hinckley Town v Armitage; Ilkeston Town v Grantham Town. Southern division: Erith and Belvedere v Bury Town; Poole Town v Weymouth. Dr Martens Cup: Fourth round: Atherstone United v Leek Town; Cheltenham Town v Waterlooville. Fourth round replay: Rushden and Diamonds v Worcester City.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Abingdon Town v Bognor Regis Town. Second division: Banstead Athletic v Egham Town; Cheshunt v Oxford City. Third division: Kingsbury Town v East Thurrock United; Cove v Lewes.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Atherton LR v Lancaster City; Warrington Town v Caernarfon Town.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Newry v Glenavon.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Third round, first leg: Holywell v Conwy.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Third round: Cardiff City v Ebbw Vale (Ninian Pk)

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood Hanley v Maine Road (Manchester).

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Hadleigh United v Harwich and Parkeston; Newmarket v Diss; Wroxham v Wisbech.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Horndean v Bournemouth. League Cup: Quarter-finals: First leg: Bemerton Heath v Portsmouth RN.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Mangotsfield United v Chippenham Town.

UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Portfield V Southwick. John O'Hara League Cup: Third round: Hailsham v Stamco.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Cinderford v Pegasus Juniors.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Folkestone Invicta v Ramsgate.

ESSEX SENIOR CUP: Semi-final: Halstead v Grays.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Glasshoughton v Pickering.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.0

Heineken League
First division
Abertillery v Pontypool
Dunvant v Llanelli
Newport v Neath
Second division
Penarth v Abercynon
South Wales Police v Cross Keys

RUGBY LEAGUE

Youth International
Academy Select XIII v France Academy (at Salford, 7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: National Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Sheffield v Birmingham (8.0).

BOXING: Heavyweight contest: James Oyebola (Paddington) v Jerry Jones (US) (Ipswich Corn Exchange).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Masters (Wembley).

SPEED SKATING: International competition (Guildford)

TENNIS: Women's satellite tournament (Sheffield).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Igls	10	90	fair	crust	fair	fine	4	30/1
(Spring conditions; runs to resort slushy in afternoon)								
Mayrhofen	10	85	good	varied	closed	sun	5	5/2
(Good skiing on upper pistes; resort runs closed)								
Obergurgl	60	135	good	varied	good	sun	-1	4/2
(Excellent skiing under clear blue sky)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	140	320	good	varied	good	sun	-3	2/2
(Good snow holding out well despite hot sun)								
Chamonix	70	535	good	varied	fair	sun	2	30/1
(Excellent piste skiing; slopes surprisingly quiet)								
Courchevel	135	265	good	varied	good	fine	-5	30/1
(Excellent skiing on all pistes; no ice or wet snow)								
Isola	30	65	good	poor	fair	fine	3	26/1
(All pistes open except south side of Harneau)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	80	110	good	varied	good	fine	0	4/2
(Good conditions on well-groomed pistes)								
Grindelwald	30	160	good	varied	good	fine	2	4/2
(Superb spring-like skiing everywhere)								
Mürren	90	170	good	heavy	good	sun	2	4/2
(Excellent skiing everywhere; no queues and warm sun)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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Wasps send Panthers to rare defeat

By Norman de Mesquita

DURHAM Wasps had a strange weekend. At Basingstoke on Saturday, they played poorly, probably suffering from the after-effects of a busy week of ice hockey, which had included competing for and winning the Castle Eden Cup.

But, on Sunday, they regained their best form and became only the second team this season to beat Nottingham Panthers in the premier division of the British league.

Sheffield Steelers, with wins over Peterborough Pirates and Whitley Warriors, moved to within a point of the Panthers, but have played two games more. Cardiff Devils, beaten by Fife Flyers on Saturday, fared better on Sunday, beating Edinburgh Racers 10-7.

This win enabled the Devils to widen the gap between themselves and the Racers to six points. Edinburgh lead a group of five teams covered by only seven points. Fife are eighth — in the last of the play-off positions — but have ten points to spare over the Pirates. They could yet be the dark horses at play-off time.

Slough Jets remain strong favourites to win the first division and two double-figure wins increased their lead over Telford Tigers and Paisley Pirates to 13 points. With the top two divisions due to be reduced to ten teams each next season, this year's promotion and relegation play-offs will be more competitive than ever.

RESULTS: British League: Premier division: Bracknell 2 Milton Keynes 2; Durham 8 Nottingham 5; Edinburgh 7 Cardiff 10; Humberside 8 Fife 1; Whitley Bay 6 Sheffield 12. First division: Blackburn 10 Telford 6; Medway 5 Swindon 8; Slough 14 Dumfries 6; Solihull 13 Lee Valley 6; Trafford 10 Chelmsford 5.

New Yorker pulls on British vest

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

STEVE GREEN, who ran for Jamaica in the Commonwealth Games six months ago, and Abigail Hunte, a New Yorker visiting relatives in England, were named yesterday in the Great Britain indoor team to meet France in Glasgow on Saturday. Both won AAA titles in Birmingham at the weekend.

Hunte came to England last Wednesday for her first visit to the country of her birth since she emigrated to the United States 18 years ago. By Friday she had qualified for the AAA 800 metres final, by Saturday she had collected her gold medal, and by Sunday the Great Britain selectors had noted her for their team.

While the grandparents, aunts and uncles she came to visit are seeing perhaps less of Hunte than they might have expected, she is enjoying the attention. "I am supposed to be resting and relaxing but it is just a whole bunch of different things happening," Hunte said yesterday. "I just packed for two weeks but something in the back of my mind tells me I might be here for longer." Possibly until after the world indoor championships in mid-March.

Against France, Hunte will be seeking a Barcelona qualifying time of 2min 5sec. Her best indoors is 2min 7.41sec but, in her new team colours, she will be running inspired. Hers is not a passport of convenience. "I am a British citizen, I am not American," she said. "If I had dual citizenship I could try out for the United States but I have never really thought about that." Born in London, she said she would consider moving permanently to Britain if her athletics career took off.

Green will run in the 3,000 metres after his victory in 8min 8.71sec on Saturday. David Cropper, the British Athletic Federation's chairman of selectors, said that Green had been selected as a British citizen and that his appearance for Jamaica last year did not preclude him because of the different rules of eligibility governing the Commonwealth Games.

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GREAT BRITAIN TEAM

MEN: 60m: L Christie (Thames Valley), M Rosswess (Birchfield). 200m: J Regis (Belgrave), S Warloo (Haringey). 400m: M Hylton (Windsor), B Whittle (Haringey). 800m: T McKean (Haringey), M Steele (Longwood). 1,500m: G Graham (Clydesdale), I Grime (Newham). 3,000m: D Burrows (Birchfield), S Green (Trafford). 60m hurdles: C Jackson (Brecon), A Jarrett (Haringey). 4 x 400m relay (from): Hylton, Warloo, Whittle, G Bullock (Wigan), P Crampton (Spenborough), K Ulyatt (Norfolk Olympiads). High jump: G Parsons (Blue Circle), G Reilly (Loughborough). Pole vault: M Barber (Birchfield), P Williamson (Thames Valley). Long jump: J Munroe (Thames Valley), B Williams (Cannock). Triple jump: J Golley (Thames Valley), J Herbert (Haringey). Shot: L Newman (Blackheath), M Proctor (Newham).

WOMEN: 60m: S Douglas (Sale), P Thomas (Trafford). 200m: Thomas, M Richardson (Windsor, Slough and Eton). 400m: S Gunnell (Essex Ladies), M Neef (City of Glasgow). 800m: S Bowyer (Sale), A Hunte (unattached). 1,500m: M Faherty (Sligrach), L Gibson (Oxford City). 3,000m: Z Hyde (Woking), A Wyeth (Parkside). 60m hurdles: J Agyepong (Shaftesbury Barnet), C Court (Birchfield). 4 x 400m relay (from): Gunnell, Neal, S Earnshaw (Rotherham), S McCann (Lisburn), J Stoute (Bromley), M Thomas (Birchfield). High jump: L Haggett (Croydon), D Mariì (Bromley). Pole vault: K Staples (Essex Ladies), L Stanton (Rotherham). Long jump: Y Idowu (Essex Ladies), D Lewis (Birchfield). Triple jump: M Griffith (Windsor, Slough and Eton), R Kirby (Blackheath). Shot: J Oakes (Croydon), M Lynes (Essex Ladies).

RADIO CHOICE

Singer with a matt finish

Matt Monro: Tribute to a Song Stylist. *Radio 2, 9.00pm.*

The lyricist Don Black, singing this paean to a singer generally held to have been Britain's answer to Frank Sinatra, begins by describing him unambiguously as "the best voice this country has ever produced". He ends more modestly: "one of the best popular singers of his generation." As Stephen Pattinson wrote the script, we do not know whose concise judgments these are. Not that it matters much. We hear enough recordings by Monro to arrive at our own verdicts. For me, his voice exuded tenderness and warmth and he spoke his lyrics clearly. His vibrato was nicely controlled. He was fortunate in the songs he was given to sing. On reflection, Monro probably *was* what Black — or Pattinson? — says he was.

The John Field Nocturnes. *Radio 3, 10.30pm.*

If you tune in late to this programme, will you, I wonder, say to yourself: "*The Times* must have got it wrong! This is Chopin, not — what's his name, Field?" You will not be alone if you do think that. Field, a Dubliner, invented the nocturne and we can speculate whether, if he had not, Chopin would have gone on to earn for himself the title of the first poet of the piano. Field anticipated and influenced Chopin's piano works. Chopin himself once admitted that concertgoers were coupling his name with Field's. Daniel Adni is playing all of the Irishman's nocturnes on Radio 3. Tonight, it's numbers 4 and 10.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **4.00am** Bruno Brookes **6.30** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including The Amazing Spiderman **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** The Bruce Dickinson Rock Show **10.00** Mark Radcliffe, featuring Mark Kermode's Cult Movie **Midnight** Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **8.45** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce, including at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford, including at **2.30** the star guest interview **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn, with Answers Please **7.00** Hayes Over Britain: Phone 01645 288291 **8.30** Mr Finchley Goes to Paris, by Victor Canning (r) **9.00** Matt Monroe: Tribute to a Song Stylist. See Choice **10.00** Explorer 2 **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

2.05am Test Match Special: Australia v England **7.00** The Breakfast Programme, including at **7.55** Racing Preview **8.15** Test Match Special **9.35** The Magazine, including at **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Dirty News **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.15** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.00** Inverdale in Moscow: John Inverdale reports **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** The Tuesday Match: coverage of fourth round FA Cup replays **10.05** News Talk, with Nigel Cassidy and guests **11.00** Night Extra, incl **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours, with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *Strong Poison* **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** The Use of Number **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** The Essential Qur'an **9.30** On Screen **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Discovery **10.30** Ports of Call **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack **12.45** Sport **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *Strong Poison* **2.45** Turning a Tune **3.00** News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Andy Kershaw **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.15am** Concert Hall **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** What's News? **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Andy Kershaw **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Discovery **4.00** Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in D minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Opera Guide **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Mark Griffiths **1.00am** Tim Lihoreau

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55 Weather **7.00 On Air**, with Catriona Young. Debussy, orch Büsser (Petite suite); Leclair (Violin Concerto in F, Op 7 No 4); Mendelssohn (Variations sérieuses, Op 54); Puccini (Prelude Sinfonico); **8.20** *Purcell Portfolio*: Purcell (A selection of songs); **8.45** Boëllman (Symphonic Variations)

9.00 Composer of the Week: Strauss (Sonatina No 1 in F, From an Invalid's Workshop; Ich Liebe Dich; An den Baum, Daphne)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Edward Blakeman. **10.00** *Artist of the Week*: John Williams, guitar. Leo Brouwer (Berceuse; Danza caracteristica); **10.05** Saint-Saëns (Symphony in A); Villa-Lobos (Guitar Concerto: John Williams; English Chamber Orchestra); Weber (Trio, Op 53); Sibelius (The Swan of Tuonela, Legends)

12.00 Music Restored: The Song of the Angels. The second in a series of concerts of vocal music from pre-Reformation England. The Sixteen under Harry Christophers performs music from the Eton Choirbook (r)

1.00pm City of London Sinfonia under Andrew Watkinson, from St Bartholomew-the-Great. First in a series of concerts of 20th-century British music, from three churches in the City of London. Warlock (Capriol Suite); Elgar (Serenade for strings); Diana Burrell (Enchantements); Britten (Prelude and Fugue for 18 solo strings, Op 29)

2.00 Schools: Playtime **2.15** Time to Move **2.35** Listen!

3.00 Some Versions of Pastoral: Presented by Piers Burton-Page. Including excerpts from works by Gay, Britten, Finzi, Ireland, Hadley, Orr, Gurney and Warlock

5.00 The Music Machine: Ornamentation in baroque music

5.15 In Tune: Including **5.16** Michael Haydn (Symphony in F); Respighi (Feste romane); Monteverdi (Two Madrigals, Second Book of Madrigals, 1590)

7.30 Pebble Mill: Mosaiques Quartet performs Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 33 No 3, Bird); Schubert (Quartettsatz in C minor); **8.05** Interval: Discussion of Beethoven's late string quartets; **8.25** Beethoven (String Quartet in C sharp minor, Op 131)

9.10 The English Cadence, with Jeremy Summerly

9.25 Delius: Sakuntala; Paa Vidderne; Seven Danish Songs (Neil Mackie, tenor; Simon Ward, narrator; BBC Symphony Orchestra under Vernon Handley)

10.30 The John Field Nocturnes: See Choice

10.45 Night Waves: With Roy Porter, including the first review of a new production of *Romeo and Juliet*

11.30-12.30a, The BBC Orchestra: BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Alun Francis. Allan Pettersson (Symphonic Movement: Symphony No 2)

1.00-2.10 Night School: History 9-11 **1.40** Tales from Europe

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News Briefing, Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: 0171-580 4444

10.00-10.30 Way Down South (FM only): Hank Wangford continues his search for cowboys in Argentina

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 Pilgrim's Progress (LW only) (22/25) (r)

10.30 Woman's Hour: Tanita Tikaram tells Jenni Murray how she and her songs are weathering maturity

11.30 Medicine Now: Geoff Watts reports

12.00 News; You and Yours

12.25pm Oliver Twist: Dramatised by Nigel Bryant (3/6) (r) **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: The Upshot. In John Merryfield's light comedy, Moma and Guy meet at a concert of 18th-century music. She eats too much, and he is hopeless with women. With Gerda Stevenson, Paul Young and Sandy Neilson

2.30 Dancing For a Living: Lynne Walker talks to Pamela Johnson, choreographer and dancer with the Leeds-based Phoenix Dance Company

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift: An hour of live action with stories from all over Britain

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Sarah Maguire reads a new biography of the poet Louis MacNeice

4.45 Short Story: Punishment by Tessa Hadley. Read by Ri Richards

5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.15 If You're So Clever Why Aren't You Rich? Comedy by Paul Shearer and Richard Turner. Starring Richard E. Grant, Amanda Root and Peter Capaldi (5/6)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4: Alison Hilliard reports

8.00 Science Now: Peter Evans presents the weekly review of discoveries and developments in science (r)

8.30 Gosling en France: More than 3,000 French cafés close every year. Ray Gosling investigates (r)

9.00 In Touch: Magazine for people with a visual handicap. Presented by Tony Berringer

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Initiate in the Heart, by Laurence Whistler. Read by Ronald Pickup (7/10) (r)

11.00 Medlumwave: With Joanna Coles (r)

11.30-12.00 Hidden Voices (FM only): Portraits of Muslims in Europe (5/6) (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)

12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM-97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Worth suspending your disbelief for theirs

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to say farewell to **Signs and Wonders** (BBC 2), a serial in which it was always a challenge to keep track of precisely who had lost faith in precisely what, but which nevertheless delivered some gripping drama from those "difficult" subjects of religion and belief. The achievement should not be under-estimated.

Sadly, of course, we are also gathered to say farewell to Donald Pleasence, who died last week. In last night's episode, Pleasence, as the deconstructionalist philosopher Cornelius van Damm, had little to do but grip the desk in front of him as he waited for his erstwhile disciple, the terminally angry Stephen Palmore, to expose his Nazi past. But the week before he had been at his mesmeric best in the scene in which van Damm *finally owned up to being not the champagne deconstructionalist we* saw before us but a fascist planted by the American security services to keep left wing intellectuals uselessly distracted.

With cigar firmly in hand and *tongue almost invisibly in cheek*, Pleasence revelled in the pretentious ambiguity of lines such as: "Did I not teach that identity is only an imaginary totality, constructed as a predicate to language?" and "Words speak us, we do not speak words". Did he believe it, or was he secretly inclined towards the deconstructionalist approach of Carl the coal miner, namely that it was "all a load of b*****ks"? We never really did discover.

Keeping tabs on what people didn't believe in was little easier. The obnoxious Stephen (Michael Maloney) didn't believe in God, van Damm or being nice to anyone. His sister Claire (Jodhi May) had almost stopped believing in her portly New Messiah but wasn't quite ready to change flock or, indeed, frock, although the latter may be due to some post-*Buccaneers* economy drive by the BBC wardrobe department. As for *their parents, mother (Prunella* Scales) wasn't sure whether she loved her husband, let alone God, but quite fancied a bit of deprogramming with that nice Mr Diamond (James Earl Jones). That left father, the Rev Stephen Palmore (David Warner), who by the end had fallen in and out of faith so many times I'd lost count.

The final instalment was perhaps the weakest of Michael Eaton's otherwise impressive four-part story. The tension of Claire's escape from the Mercy cult was skilfully maintained right to the end, but the subplot strained credulity. The revelations that those nasty flashbacks that haunted Stephen were actually reminders of his incarceration, for flying cocaine paste out of the Amazon basin for the Bora-Bora indians, was simply far too *colourful a past for this odious* academic to have. No wonder the man from MI5 kept smirking.

The acting throughout was of a high quality, with David Rasche, as the sinister Brother Nahum, particularly convincing. But Eaton had given the best lines to Warner as the serially faithless Palmore. "He doesn't exist," he mumbled to his son after his stroke. "Who?" "Rub, mud, dog, sod . . ." "Do you mean God?" "Yes, that's the bastard." Happily, by the end, he was back on praying terms.

Within five minutes of the start of **Cutting Edge: For Richer, For Poorer** (Channel 4) most of the nation, I expect, were down on their knees putting in an emergency call to the higher authorities: "Please, please — don't let them do it." The "they" in question were Julie and Pete — Julie, who was pretty as a picture and looked about 12 and Pete, whose wispy goatee beard only partially disguised late teens. The "it" was getting married.

Julie and Pete were one of three couples selected by director Lucy Sandys-Winsch to illustrate the modern institution of marriage. As an idea, it's been done about a thousand times before but was still wonderfully watchable, confirming my long-held theory that it is actually impossible to make a bad fly-on-the-wall documentary about people getting married.

Within 15 minutes it was clear that it wasn't prayers that Julie and Pete needed, it was a miracle — or, failing that, a revolution. For not only were they the youngest of the three couples, they were anchored at the bottom of the social ladder. Elizabeth and Christopher would be all right — they were upper middle-class rich and got engaged on a skiing holiday. Jo and Rob would probably be all right — they were self-made rich and permanently engaged on mobile telephones. Julie and Pete, however, were teenagers living in a tower block on income support and engaged in nothing.

As the three stories unfolded, the cutting acquired an aggressive edge that may not have endeared Sandys-Winsch to her subjects. We cut from Elizabeth's preening brother, revelling in his morning-suited glory, to a hungover Pete struggling to iron a shirt on his bed. We cut from Elizabeth's parents being sniffy about "helicopters and balloons" to Rob arriving at his lavish landed fantasy — in a helicopter. And we cut from Jo and Rob saying they hadn't fancied tying the knot "stuck in a stone church" to Elizabeth and Christopher doing just that. Cruel but entertaining.

With Christopher's rambling speech showing just how little Richard Curtis had to make up for *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and Rob being so badly stitched up in the editing that friends had to be drafted in to remind us he was "a great bloke", the last word was left to Pete. "At the end of the day, I have got a beautiful wife and it's going to stay that way till I die." Not a dry eye . . .

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (28571)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (62987216)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (9332007)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7408216) **10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick.** Weekday magazine (s) (88977552)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1210842) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (2446484) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (75691674)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (72007)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (82346823) **1.50 Timekeepers.** *Quiz show. The question-master is* Bill Dod (s) (82357939)

2.15 Snooker. Second round action from the Benson and Hedges Masters, introduced by Dougie Donnelly from the Wembley Conference Centre (s) (614281)

3.50 Jackanory. Imelda Staunton with Jenny Nimmo's *Delilah and the Dishwater Dogs* (s) (3019668) **4.00 Willy Fogg.** (Ceefax) (2700129) **4.25 Grimmy** (4733674) **4.35 Incredible Games.** (Ceefax) (s) (5839281)

5.00 Newsround (7583736) **5.10 Grange Hill.** (Ceefax) (s) (9099216)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (607007)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (804)

6.30 Regional news magazines (484)

7.00 Holiday. Jill Dando samples a spa hotel just outside Rome, Paul Gogarty is in Sri Lanka, Sheryl Simms reports from the isles of Scilly and Sankha Guha *continues his series of reports on working holidays*, this week in the United States. (Ceefax) (s) (8213)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (668)

Jeremy Guscott tackles the questions (8.00pm)

8.00 A Question of Sport. David Coleman, Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Herbie Hide, Jeremy Guscott, Jason McAteer and Alison Nicholas. (Ceefax) (s) (3823)

8.30 Ain't Misbehavin'. *Marital infidelity comedy series.* (Ceefax) (s) (5858)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (926823)

9.35 FILM: No Way Out (1987) starring Kevin Costner, Gene Hackman and Sean Young. Thriller about a Pentagon officer who thinks the defence secretary and his assistant are guilty of the murder of which he is the prime suspect. Directed by Roger Donaldson. (Ceefax) (s) (534200). **Northern Ireland:** Country Times 10.00 29 Bedford Street 10.25 Film: No Way Out 12.20am-1.00 Snooker; **Wales:** Week In Week Out 10.05 Wales Playhouse 10.35 Film: No Way Out 12.25am Snooker 1.05-2.45 Film: Laguna Heat

11.25 Snooker. Action from the Benson and Hedges Masters second round match between Jimmy White and Joe Swail (s) (647465)

12.05am FILM: Laguna Heat (1987) starring Harry Hamlin and Jason Robards. A detective on leave in his home town becomes involved in a complex murder case involving a family friend. Directed by Simon Langton (815224) **1.45 Weather** (7877412)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: The Quality Assistant (7963674) **6.45** Le Corbusier and the Villa La Roche (8269620) **7.10** Changing Experience of Education (6233129)

8.00 BBC Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7734668) **8.15 Westminster On-Line.** Sir Bernard Ingham welcomes Michael Meacher, MP (4327668)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (2374113) **1.40-1.45** You and Me (86379858) **2.00** Gordon T. Gopher (28430194)

2.10 Horizon: Air Crash — The Deadly Puzzle. Film of an aircrash investigation (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2709465)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (6374991) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (3000910)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (397)

4.30 Snooker. Benson and Hedges Masters (s) (14378)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. American teen comedy (s) (130991) **6.25 Heartbreak High.** Drama about an Australian inner city school. (Ceefax) (s) (504378)

7.15 Dance for the Camera: Alistair Fish. The second of four dance films (s) (708736)

7.30 Painting the World. Neil MacGregor, director of London's National Portrait Gallery looks at works by 18th and 19th-century painters. (Ceefax) (s) (910)

8.00 Public Eye: In the Line of Fire. *A report on the* dramatic increase in domestic fires. (Ceefax) (1465)

The Critchards, McCarthy and Toksvig (8.30pm)

8.30 Food and Drink. The journalist John McCarthy and comedienne Sandi Toksvig prepare local fare with Steve and Jo Critchard who run Critchard's restaurant in Porthleven, Cornwall. (Ceefax) (s) (3200)

9.00 Joking Apart. Last in the comedy series about a scriptwriter abandoned by his wife. (Ceefax) (s) (4910)

9.30 The Bag Lady. The story of a woman who has spent most of the last 20 years living rough on the streets of London (r). (Ceefax) (110281)

10.20 Jim Tavare Pictures Presents . . . Comedy series *(s) (805194)*

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (769991)

11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (654755) **11.55 Weather** (267571)

12.00 Choices and Chances (1021088)

12.25am Social Psychology (7050779)

1.25-1.55 The Record. A review of the day's proceedings in Parliament (4701476)

2.00-4.00 Night School: Zig Zag (72069)

5.30-6.00 BBC Select: Norwich Union Financial Meeting (63514)

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CHOICE

Royal Marines training in Norway (ITV, 10.40pm)

Network First: Commando
ITV, 10.40pm

A civil war is raging in Europe and a Royal Marines regiment *is given two daunting tasks: to provide* humanitarian aid to a town under siege and to rescue more than 100 children. The cameras are there to follow every step. Snow and freezing temperatures form one hazard. Others are provided by sniper fire, an unexploded bomb and a surprise helicopter attack. Surprisingly, perhaps, we are not in Bosnia, but in Norway, and this is only a training exercise. But it looks real enough, indeed you wonder whether realism is being taken too far. The regiment filmed for this documentary went through unscathed. But the exercise as a whole, which is held annually in the Arctic, claimed four lives.

The Way We Were
Channel 4, 3.55pm

Nottingham's Ritzy, its manager proudly boasts, is *the* swinging place of the East Midlands. In its different ways it always has been, even since it opened in 1925. Then it was called the Palais de Danse and this bright, unassuming little film uses the history of the place to chart the evolution of dance styles and what they have often said about social convention. The watershed came around 1954 with the advent of rock 'n' roll and the teenager as a market force. Before then it was all highly respectable, the golden age of ballroom dancing and no men allowed in without ties. Now live bands have given way to discos and dress is, well, informal. First-hand memories enliven the programme, the first of four about British institutions.

September Song
ITV, 8.30pm

Rather against the odds, the saga of Russ Abbot's second-rate teacher and Michael Williams's alcoholic clown continues to provide diverting entertainment. After spending the last series at sea, the show has wisely come back to earth and, for the moment at least, has taken root on the pier at Cromer. Back in the variety theatre where he belongs, Williams's Billy is able to resume his Robb Wilton act, while Abbot's Ted spurns the chance of a trip to the United States in order to join him. Essentially the pair are failures, which gives the show its melancholy, but they are also survivors, which prevents it becoming mawkish. Despite the setbacks and the humiliations, you know that Ted and Billy will come up smiling, more or less.

Classic Trucks
Channel 4, 8.00pm

The value of this trip into vehicle nostalgia is to find romance where you might least expect it. The fire engine and the ambulance are commonplace enough but for their enthusiasts they have a history just as glorious as that of any exotic car. In this film veteran firemen drool over the golden age and dismiss today's fire appliances as looking anonymously the same, like bread vans with a ladder on the roof. As the camera dwells over all that brass, used because it was non-corrosive and polished until it dazzled, you are forced to agree that fire engines are not what they used to be. The same can be said for ambulances. For enthusiasts nothing has replaced the silky Daimler which served London up to the 1960s. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (1869397)

9.25 Chain Letters (4129378) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (2351262)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place with John Stapleton (s) (4558129)

10.35 This Morning (90529939) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1216026)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (4135533)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (4143552) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (61709378)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz discusses compulsive behaviour. (Teletext) (s) (60179787) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (61110397)

2.50 Blue Heelers (9000858) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (7689842) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7688113)

3.30 The Magic House (s) (9784026) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (3008552) **3.50 Twinkle the Dream Being** (r) (s) (3004736) **4.00 Budgie the Little Helicopter** (4310533) **4.15 The Dreamstone** (Teletext) (s) (4139692) **4.40 Chris Cross** (r). (Teletext) (s) (1511422)

5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (8214084)

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (957649)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (870007)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (200)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (552)

7.00 Emmerdale. Turner hosts the last night in the old Woolpack. (Teletext) (2571)

7.30 The Big Story. Dermot Murnaghan investigates how some Metropolitan police officers get away with perjury and assault (s) (736)

8.00 The Bill: Just Another Caution. A former convict offers his own version of justice. (Teletext) (8991)

Michael Williams acts the clown (8.30pm)

8.30 September Song (Teletext) (s) (7026)

9.00 Peak Practice: Tender. Medical drama starring Kevin Whately and Amanda Burton. A routine medical has devastating consequences for a Cardale firefighter. (Teletext) (s) (4262)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (21484)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (879910)

10.40 Network First: Commando. (Teletext) (s) (435397)

11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (822674)

12.40am FILM: The Human Factor (1975) starring George Kennedy, John Mills and Rita Tushingham. When his wife and children are murdered, an electronics expert working for Nato vows revenge. Directed by Edward Dmytryk (401205)

2.25 The Little Picture Show with Mariella Frostrup (7955595)

3.20 America's Top Ten (s) (89901359)

3.45 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (43351243)

4.10 On the Live Side (s) (35190682)

4.30 Videofashion (35866)

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (93392)

5.30 ITN Morning News** (50040). Ends at **6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan. Animated pirate adventures (r) (8270736)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (68858)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (89543)

9.30 Schools: Eureka (5529262) **9.45** Stop, Look and Listen (5620945) **10.00** Fourways Farm (7319378) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (7689741) **10.25** How We Used to Live (8934638) **10.45** Coming Together (1099991) **11.00** Science in Focus (9496910) **11.22** Stage One (2194991) **11.38** Schools at Work (9390791) **11.45** First Edition (3579587)

12.00 House to House Political magazine series introduced by Maya Even (28397)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Harry Belafonte (77858) **1.30 Widget** (r) (s) (81329020)

1.55 Weather-Beaten Melody. Animation from Germany, made in 1943 (86270533)

2.05 FILM: Ramrod (1947, b/w) starring Veronica Lake, Preston Foster and Joel McCrea. Western drama about a rancher battling with a cattle baron who is after her land. Directed by André de Toth (456674)

3.55 The Way We Were. (Teletext) (s) (8383026)

4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley with another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (649)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The guests are men who love woman who are behind bars (r). (Teletext) (s) (7995842)

5.50 Terrytoons. Classic cartoon series (966858)

6.05 Babylon 5: Points of Departure. Award-winning American science-fiction adventure series starring Bruce Boxleitner. (Teletext) (s) (43194)

6.55 Terrytoons featuring Deputy Dawg

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (718939)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' soapbox (769007)

Nostalgia for vintage fire engines (8.00pm)

8.00 Classic Trucks: Emergency, Emergency (Teletext) (s) (6533)

8.30 Brookside. Mandy, Beth and Sinbad are *interviewed by the police about the murder of Trevor* Jordache. (Teletext) (s) (5668)

9.00 Visions of Heaven and Hell: Welcome To the Jungle. The second of a three-part documentary series on information technology, narrated by Tilda Swinton. (Teletext) (s) (2804)

10.00 ER. The pilot episode of a new American drama series set in the emergency ward of a Chicago hospital that was transmitted last Wednesday but interrupted in southern England by equipment failure (154281)

11.40 Whatever Happened to Uncle Fred. An animated story of adultery (342216)

11.45 Bakersfield PD. California police comedy series. (Teletext) (s) (394910)

12.15am Naked Sport. An episode from the series examining the American sports business (735392)

1.15 Blood, Sweat and Glory. Series on the history of sport (r) (83972)

1.50 Okay For Sound (1937, b/w). A Crazy Gang farce *directed by Marcel Varnel (918953). Ends at **3.20***

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (2351262) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (1216026) 1.55 A Country Practice (82341378) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (9000858) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (7688113) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8214084) 6.25-7.00 Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (859465) 7.30-8.00 Food Guide (736) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News (879910) 12.35am Nevada Smith (33079069) 2.45 The Little Picture Show (2595576) 3.40 The Beat (5099156) 4.35-5.00 Travel Trails (66590040)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (2351262) 12.20pm-12.30 Central News and Weather (1216026) 1.55 A Country Practice (82341378) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (9000858) 3.25-3.30 Central News (7688113) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8214084) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (859465) 7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (736) 10.30-10.40 Central News and Weather (879910) 11.40-12.40am Crime Story (822674) 4.10am Jobfinder (9511798) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (8099953)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (2351262) 12.20pm-12.30 Granada News (1216026) 12.55 Shortland Street (41435552) 1.25 Home and Away (30712736) 1.50 Vanessa (89723246) 2.20 Wish You Were Here...? (61102378) 2.50-3.20 Emmerdale (9000858) 3.25 Granada News (7688113) 3.30-3.40 The Magic House (9784026) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (8214084) 6.25 Granada Tonight (859465) 7.00 Emmerdale (2571) 7.30-8.00 The Main Ingredient (736) 10.30-10.40 Granada News (879910) 11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (822674) 12.40am The Human Factor (401205) 2.25 The Little Picture Show (7955595) 3.20 America's Top Ten (89901359) 3.45 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (43351243) 4.10 Jobfinder (7437088) 5.00-5.30 Vanessa (93392)

HTV WEST

As London except: 2.25 Wish You Were Here...? (61101649) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (7118991) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (8214084) 6.30-7.00 HTV News (552) 7.30-8.00 West Eye View (736) 4.10am-5.00 Jobfinder (7437088)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 12.20pm-12.30 HTV Wales News and Weather (1216026) 3.25-3.30 HTV Wales News (7688113) 6.30-7.00 Wales Tonight (552) 7.30-8.00 Primetime (736)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (82341378) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (9000858) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8214084) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (200) 6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs (552) 7.30-8.00 Held in Trust (736) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News and Weather (879910) 12.35am Nevada Smith (33079069) 2.45 The Little Picture Show (2595576) 3.40 The Beat (5099156) 4.35 *Travel Trails (66590040)* 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (93392)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (82341378) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (9000858) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8214084) 5.55 Tyne Tees Today (146378) 6.30-7.00 Crosswits (552) 7.30-8.00 Action Time (736) 11.40 BL Stryker - Winner Takes All (450262) 1.25am Little Picture Show (5704243) 2.25 Sport (6944750) 3.25 The Beat (4546798) 4.20-5.30 Jobfinder (9500682)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 2.25-3.25 The Young Doctors (61101649) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8214084) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (45552) 7.30-8.00 Held in Trust (736) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather (879910) 4.10am-5.00 Jobfinder (7437088)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (82341378) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (9000858) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8214084) 5.55 Calendar (146378) 6.30-7.00 Crosswits (552) 7.30-8.00 Action Time (736) 11.40 BL Stryker - Winner Takes All (450262) 1.25am The Little Picture Show (5704243) 2.25 Sport AM (6944750) 3.25 The Beat (4546798) 4.20-5.30 Jobfinder (9500682)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (68858) 9.00 You Bet Your Life (89543) 9.30 Ysgolion (528397) 12.00pm House To House (28397) 12.30 Siot Meithrin (31303) 1.00 Little Miss (61945) 1.30 Hanging With Mr Cooper (30674) 2.00 The Late Late Show (52755) 3.00 The Number 10 Show (5804) 3.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9600194) 4.20 Terrytoons (4654113) 4.30 Saved By The Bell - The New Class (649) 5.00 5 Pump (7649) 5.30 Countdown (129) 6.00 Newyddion (598991) 6.15 Heno (589194) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (429820) 7.25 Ferch Drws Nesa' (546303) 7.55 Ocsiwn Fferm (873533) 8.30 Newyddion (5668) 9.00 Cutting Edge: For Richer, For Poorer (2804) 10.00 Brookside (29028) 10.30 Dim Telod (652262) 11.30 The Good Fight (739281)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (56026) **8.00** Power Rangers (2368823) **8.45** Oprah Winfrey (9479649) **9.30** Card Sharks (84465) **10.00** Concentration (5277216) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7468939) **10.30** Candid Camera (55465) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (92543) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (42945) **12.30pm** E Street (88281) **1.00** St Elsewhere (83736) **2.00** Shaka Zulu (65007) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey (1175200) **3.50** DJ Kat (4784755) **4.30** Power Rangers (6649) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9262) **6.00** Gamesworld (6282) **6.30** Blockbusters (1194) **7.00** E Street (9561) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7378) **8.00** September; Starring Jacqueline Bisset (24007) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (38842) **11.00** David Letterman (924991) **11.50** Littlejohn (713858) **12.40am** Chances (7958578) **1.30** Night Court (99137) **2.00-6.00** Hitmix Long Play (5682175)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (74282) **9.30** Fashion TV (56571) **10.30** ABC Nightline (53007) **11.00** World News and Business (230709) **1.30pm** CBS News (21200) **2.30** Parliament Live (58736) **4.00** World News and Business (43787) **5.00** Live at Five (2384755) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (70353397) **8.00** World News and Business (57007) **9.30** Coverage of the O J Simpson Trial (862129) **12.30am** ABC World News (2920243) **1.10** Entertainment This Week (8348021) **2.30** Parliament Replay (78935) **4.30** CBS News (11392) **5.30-6.00** ABC World News (85750)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (9998200) **10.00 Victim of Love** (1993) (99397) **12.00 Crooks Anonymous** (1962) (295910) **1.45pm Toys** (1992) (51908303) **3.50 How to Steal a Million** (1966) (98161668) **5.55 Victim of Love** (1993). As 10am (16331842) **7.30 Close-Up** (8674) **8.00 Toys** (1992) As 1.45pm (85669587) **10.05 Lush Life** (1993) (705804) **11.50 Map of the Human Heart** (1993) (532084) **1.40 Halloween III: Season of the Witch** (1983) (562156) **3.15 Poison Ivy** (1992) (386446) **4.45-6.00 Crooks Anonymous** (1962): As noon (8019514)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Remember the Night (1940) (11892) **8.00 Racing with the Moon** (1984) (15397) **10.00-12.00 White Dog** (1982) (68991)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

***6.00am** Man's Favourite Sport (1964)* (56615736) **8.10 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds** (1981): Cartoon (61078485) **9.50 My Son John** (1952) (37135658) **12.00 Tarzan Triumphs** (1943) (7280736) **1.20pm Hiawatha** (8072587) **2.15 The Man Who Never Was** (1955) (366845) **4.00 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds** (1981): As 8 10am (2736) **6.00 T Bone 'n' Weasel** (1992) (38200) **8.00 Mandroid** (1993) (9618668) **9.25 Sniper** (1992) (55933939) **11.05 Barbarians at the Gate** (1993) (310910) **12.55am Trancers III: Deth Lives** (1992) (6036408) **2.20 OC and Stiggs** (1984) (538330) **4.10-6.00 T Bone 'n' Weasel** (1992). As 8pm (921309)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY SPORTS

10.00am The Footballer's Football Show (45991) **11.00** NBA Action (26991) **11.30** World of Speed and Beauty (27620) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (75868) **12.30pm** Ford Scorpio US PGA Golf (649910) **3.30** Stunt Team Championships (8688) **4.00** ABC Tenpin Bowling (40571) **5.00** World Wrestling Federation Superstars (1216) **6.00** Soccer News (676378) **6.15** Fish Tales (664533) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (8804) **7.00** International Cricket Highlights (480674) **10.00** Soccer News (195874) **10.15** Tartan Extra (428736) **11.15** Grass Roots Rugby (577281) **11.45** A-Z of Sport (416991) **12.45am** Opposite Lock (923586) **1.45-2.45** Tartan Extra (929779) **4.30** Soccer News (83763175) **4.45** Fish Tales (30455156) **5.00-10.00** Cricket (6688088)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogolf Magazine (23533) **8.30** Live Alpine Skiing (57668) **10.00** Figure Skating (29699) **11.30** Live Alpine Skiing (99804) **1.00pm** Football (17981) **2.30** Speedworld (89620) **4.00** Eurosport (42839) **5.00** Football (80484) **6.30** News (6200) **7.00** Eurotennis (57303) **8.00** Car Racing (60823) **9.00** Alpine Skiing (53587) **10.00** Snooker (28303) **12.00-12.30am** News (40601)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (8425281) **8.30** Peyton Place (6424552) **9.00** As the World Turns (3762200) **10.00** Guiding Light (8147484) **11.00-12.00** Another World (6127620)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (8435668) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1473552) **1.00** Trailside — Make Your Own Adventure (6138736) **1.30** The Real Food of China (1472623) **2.00** California's Gold (8795397) **2.30** Discover Your World (7526533) **3.00** American Vacation (1391026) **4.00** Sky Travel Guide (7540113) **4.30** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (7546397) **5.00** Roads to Freedom (8786849) **5.30** The Real Food of China (7537649) **6.00** Getaway — Australia (7527262) **6.30** Ticket to Paradise (7541842) **7.00** Venice Special (8799113) **7.30** Caribbean Vacation (7547026) **8.00** Around the World in 30 Minutes (8775533) **8.30** Sky Travel Guide (8794868) **9.00** Getaway — Australia (1462945) **9.30** Ticket to Paradise (1566216) **10.00** Venice Special (6436397) **10.30** Caribbean Vacation Travel guide to the West Indies (6518945) **11.00** Roads to Freedom (1381262) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (2850620)

James Mason in *Odd Man Out* (UK Gold, 12.15am)

TLC

9.00am Room Service (2373552) **9.30** The Roux Brothers (1323910) **10.00** Jimmy's (4211668) **10.30** Only Human (8341026) **11.30** Discovering Psychology (4117465) **12.00** Extra Dimensions (4756397) **12.45pm** Draw with Don (58516532) **1.00** The Roux Brothers (3320002) **1.30** Room Service (1333397) **2.00** Magic or Medicine? (4212397) **3.00** Video Show (4080484) **3.30-4.00** So You Want to Play Golf (2079533)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (6675179) **7.30** Neighbours (7120264) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2465587) **8.30** EastEnders (2464858) **9.00** The Bill (2375910) **9.30** Sutherland's Law (4838755) **10.30** Angels (6343484) **11.30** No Place Like Home (4119823) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2468674) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1336484) ***1.00** EastEnders (1520020) **1.30** The Bill* (1335755) **2.00** After Henry (4080007) **2.30** Foreign Bodies (2172674) **3.00** Knots Landing (4120939) **4.00** Dallas (4205874) **5.00** Every Second Counts (4104823) **5.40** Captain Pugwash (9343858) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (8636216) **6.30** EastEnders (2061755) **7.00** Keep It In the Family (4084823) **7.30** Sweet Sebeen (2097939) **8.00** *After Henry (4093571)* ***8.30** Just Good Friends* (4089376) **9.00** The Sweeney (9437262) **10.00** The Bill (2469303) **10.30** Top of the Pops (7528200) **11.15** Cool It (8678587) **11.45** Dr Who (8677858) **12.15am** FILM: Odd Man Out (1957) (7385486) **2.20** Shopping (37534595)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (1672620) **6.55** Garfield (9156397) **7.25** Eek the Cat (8256484) **7.55** Pugwall's Summer (3874649) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (1346397) **8.45** Casper (9125129) **9.00** Sesame Street (58262) **10.00** It's Droibee Time (26804) **12.00** Garfield (11484) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (40484) **1.00** Beverley Hills Teens (98804) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (63584543) **1.45** Baby Follies (98285736) **2.00** Barney (2587) **2.30** Beber (7151) **3.00** Casper (5868200) **3.15** Where's Wally (846303) **3.45** Sonic (845674) **4.15** Head to Head (1325945) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (3945)

NICKELODEON

7.00am NickAlive! (7687561) **7.15** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (875200) **7.45** Rugrats (874571) **8.15** Doug (267213) **8.45** NickAlive! (9186129) **9.00** Nick Junior (6555711) **12.00** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (66910) **12.30pm** Muppet Show (86292) **1.00** Galaxy High (67113) **1.30** Banana Sandwich (85533) **2.00** Denver (6571) **2.30** Smoggies (4485) **3.00** Nick Faves (2378) **3.30** Turtles (9810) **4.00** Doug (1945) **4.30** Rugrats (7129) **5.00** Clarissa (7823) **5.30** NickAlive! including Rocko (8291) **6.00** Grimmy (5194) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark (2674)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Nature Watch (2098668) **4.30** Australia Wild (2087552) **5.00** Compass (16954705) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (9965910) **7.00** Earth Tremors (9439620) **8.00** Connections 2 (4091113) **8.30** Voyager (4070620) **9.00** First Flights (4129200) **9.30** The X-Planes (1314262) **10.00** Discovery Journal (9438991) **11.00-12.00** Nature by Profession (2170768)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Frozen Limits (1939) (5177858) ***1.30** The Mothers-in-Law (1320823)* ***2.00** thirtysomething* (4209823) **3.00** Rat Patrol (4087910) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (2179587) **4.00** FILM: The Gods Must Be Crazy (1984) (4098026) **6.00** Get Smart (2095571) **6.30** Police Woman (2335026) **7.30** Honey West (2082007) **8.00** thirtysomething (9442194) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (4123026) **9.30** FILM: Britannia Hospital (1982) (3178026) **11.30-12.00** *Hogan's Heroes (4204378)*

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (5188113) **7.00** Living Magazine (1420755) **8.00** Health UK (3928674) **8.30** Rendezvous (3827945) **9.00** A Cook's Tour of France (5070552) **9.35** Now You See It (2002200) **10.00** Trivia Trap (8327378) **10.30** Susan Powter (3834281) **11.00** Young and Restless (9511200) **12.00** Rendezvous (3825533) **12.30pm** Kilroy (4143620) **1.30** Family Matters (3733007) **2.00** Agony Hour (6329007) **3.00** Living Magazine (9669620) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (98656194) **4.00** Infatuation (6173378) **4.30** Trivia Trap (38785910) **4.55** Delia Smith's Cookery Course 3 (6786378) **5.30** Kate and Allie (8186842) **6.00** Susan Powter (6183755) **6.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (6174007) **7.00** Living Magazine (7862216) **8.00** Young and Restless (7775736) **9.00** FILM: Seduction (7778823) **11.00** The New Mr and Mrs Show (4352755) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (8316262)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Danger Mouse (3769) **5.30** Where I Live (1397) **6.00** African Skies (863281) **6.25** All Clued Up (582552) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (6303) **7.30** My Two Dads (4674) **8.00** Christy (17755) **9.00** Moonlighting (37991) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (12113) **10.30** GP

RACING 40, 41
MASTER OATS TOPS WEIGHTS FOR GRAND NATIONAL

SPORT

RUGBY UNION 42
ENGLAND NAME UNCHANGED TEAM TO MEET WALES

Wickets tumble after fielding fiasco as rampant Australia grasp control

Fumbling England run to ground

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN PERTH

SOMETIMES a single moment can encapsulate a game of cricket. It happened here yesterday when, in an expression of disgust that degenerated into self-parody, England surrendered their interest in this Test series and prepared for humbling defeat.

Ten minutes after lunch, Graham Thorpe dropped a slip catch. It was his second miss of the innings and, astonishingly, England's tenth of the match. Thorpe could take no more. He aimed an angry kick at the ball and sent it wide of cover for two bizarrely donated runs. Michael Atherton, the captain, dropped to his haunches, head in hands; Devon Malcolm, the suffering bowler, ranted inaudibly and kicked imaginary backsides in mid-pitch.

It was a scene of desolation from a team physically and mentally exhausted. So it was no great surprise that, when Mark Taylor finally found it in him to declare the Australia innings and set a notional target of 453 in seven hours, England batted with such weary resignation that they ended the penultimate day of this final Test on 27 for five.

Thorpe was out first ball, completing a day utterly out of character with his splendid series, and there were to be no heroic farewells from Graham Gooch or Mike Gatting, who scored four and eight respectively in their last Test innings. Typically, Atherton rose above the turmoil but he will have reflected last night that England are consistent only in their inconsistency. They would have competed strongly in this game, might even have been in a winning position, but for indescribably dismal fielding. Briefly, yesterday morning, there was even a possibility that England would be chasing something less than 300 to win.

Australia, resuming with an overall lead of 194 and eight wickets intact, played nervily as Malcolm produced a spell of fierce and well-directed pace bowling, accompanied by outrageous ill fortune. Taylor top-edged a pull to long leg, where Angus Fraser lost sight of what should have been a straightforward catch. Then, David Boon, probing uncertainly, was put down by Gooch at third slip. When Malcolm received overdue reward with the wicket of Boon, who completed the series with 43 runs from his last six innings, the England supporters stood and cheered him.

Phillip DeFreitas bowled throughout the first hour without conceding a run. He also took the wicket of Mark Waugh and, when Fraser went round the wicket to bowl Taylor off his pads, Australia were only 230 ahead with half the side gone. It was fleeting daylight for England. They were to wait more than three hours for another wicket as Steve Waugh and Greg Blewett put on 203 to terminate any last prospect of a dramatic, series-levelling win.

For Waugh, it was a second important innings of the game, a trick he has regularly repeated at England's expense since 1989. For Blewett, batting with the maturity of one who has played Test cricket for years, it was a second century in his second game. Only four players have begun their Test career in such style.

It was Waugh, when 22, who benefited from Thorpe's fumble and kick. From then on, the session took a set course, with Australia dictating, England compliant and the Barmy Army silent.

Why Taylor continued to bat quite so long remains a mystery. Waugh steered Lewis to gully and Blewett, aiming to hit him straight for six, instead picked out Malcolm at long-on. Ian Healy was batting with a runner and Shane Warne's precious hands were subjected to Malcolm with the new ball. It made no sense.

Taylor, however, can simply point to the close-of-play details and claim vindication. England had to negotiate 14 overs without loss to have a genuine chance of saving the game. They were very lucky to negotiate one.

Gooch entered to a prolonged ovation but seemed so overcome that he might have been out to his sixth and ninth balls before falling to his twelfth. Jo Angel made a comical, floundering attempt to catch him at mid-on, when he flapped a short ball from Craig McDermott in a gentle loop, and Boon failed to cling on to a sharp chance at short leg. Finally, Gooch drove straight, hit McDermott on the chest and the ball fell kindly for the caught-and-bowled. It was not the long goodbye England followers had in mind.

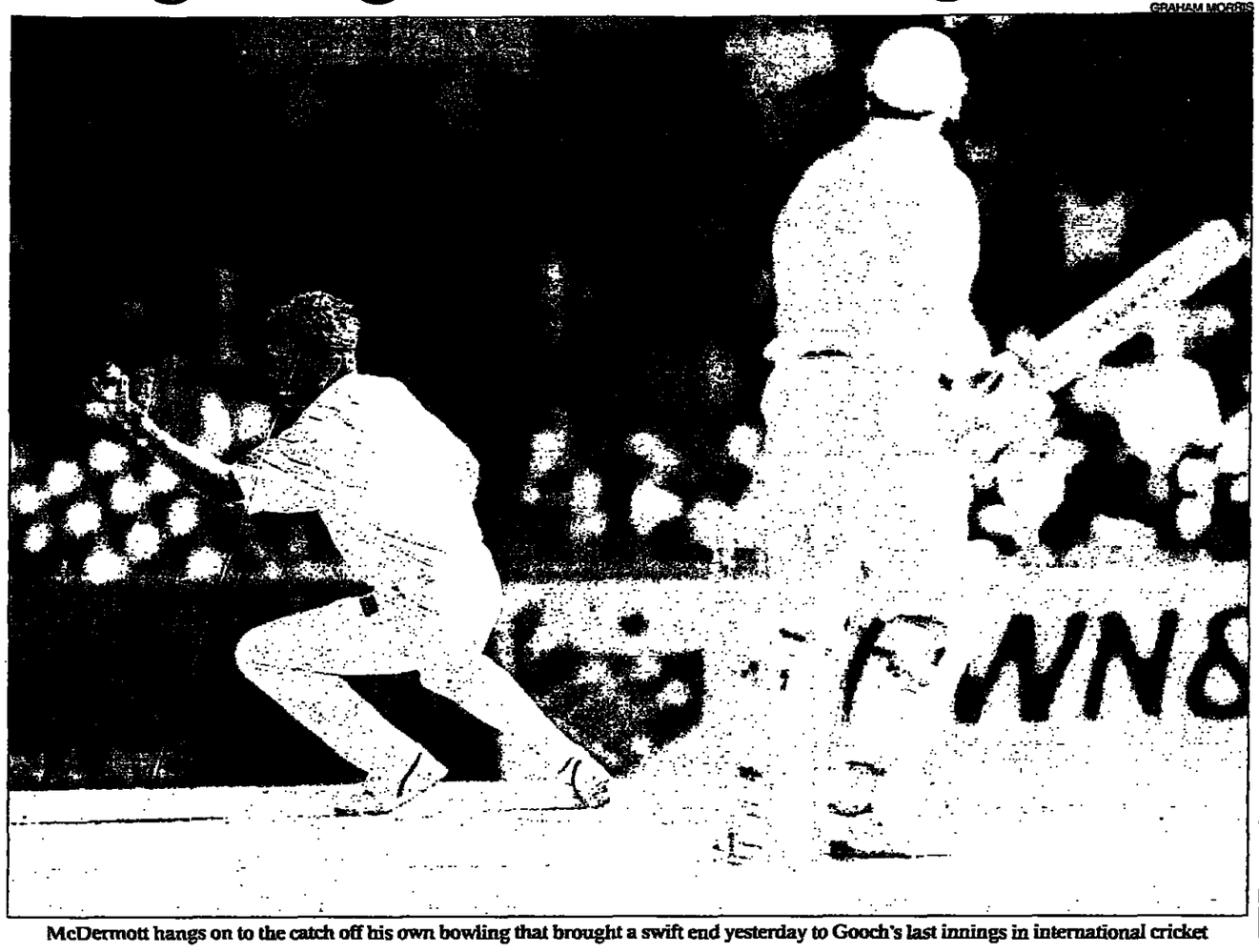
The most baffling aspect of Gatting's farewell was why he was permitted to play it at No 3, having been off the field with a side strain throughout the Australia innings. The home team appeared not to mind and McDermott quickly bowled Gatting off his pads as he aimed across the line.

Fraser was sent out as nightwatchman with half an hour remaining, a measure that is usually counter-productive. Sure enough, Glenn McGrath removed him leg-before and produced a good one for Thorpe next ball. Taylor took a sharp slip catch and Mark Waugh another as John Crawley, a rabbit in the headlights, claimed a pair.

Atherton stood glumly at the non-striker's end, visions of the 46 all out in Trinidad 11 months ago doubtless planted in his mind. As he left the field, he retained the grace and presence of mind to divert 20 yards and shake the hand of Blewett, a gesture that said as much about Atherton as did the fact that his resilience had seen out even this miserable day.

Photograph, page 42
England A prosper, page 42

GRAHAM MORRIS



McDermott hangs on to the catch off his own bowling that brought a swift end yesterday to Gooch's last innings in international cricket

PERTH SCOREBOARD

Australia won toss

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 402 (M J Slater 124, S R Waugh 99 not out, M E Waugh 88)

Second Innings
*M A Taylor b Fraser ... 52 (185min, 122 balls, 8 fours)
M J Slater c Atherton b Fraser ... 45 (82min, 55 balls, 8 fours)
J Angel run out (Gooch) ... 0 (7min, 5 balls)
D C Boon c Rhodes b Malcolm ... 18 (44min, 31 balls, 4 fours)
M E Waugh c Rhodes b DeFreitas ... 1 (21min, 14 balls)
S R Waugh c Ramprakash b Lewis 80 (215min, 142 balls, 9 fours)
G S Blewett c Malcolm b Lewis ... 115 (202min, 157 balls, 19 fours)
†I A Healy not out ... 11 (27min, 14 balls)
S K Warne c Lewis b Malcolm ... 6 (15min, 12 balls)
Extras (b 1, lb 9, nb 7) ... 17
Total (8 dec, 90.3overs, 404min) .. 345

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-75 (Taylor 26), 2-79 (Taylor 30), 3-102 (Taylor 35), 4-115 (Taylor 47), 5-123 (S R Waugh 3), 6-326 (Blewett 114), 7-333 (Healy 5), 8-345 (Healy 11).
BOWLING: Malcolm 23.3-3-105-2 (9-1-43-0, 6-1-28-1, 4-0-8-0, 3-0-25-0, 1.3-1-1-1); Fraser 21-3-74-2 (4-1-12-0, 3-1-7-1, 6-1-26-1, 4-0-15-0, 4-0-14-0); Lewis 16-1-71-2 (nb8; 2-0-11-0, 5-0-28-0, 4-0-24-0, 5-1-8-2); DeFreitas 22-10-54-1 (nb1; 14-9-19-1, 6-1-18-0, 1-0-8-0, 1-0-9-0); Ramprakash 8-1-31-0 (1-0-8-0, 7-1-25-0).

ENGLAND: First Innings 295 (G P Thorpe 123, M R Ramprakash 72)

Second Innings
G A Gooch c and b McDermott ... 4 (11min, 12 balls)
*M A Atherton not out ... 8 (65min, 37 balls, 1 four)
M W Gatting b McDermott ... 8 (16min, 14 balls, 1 four)
A R C Fraser lbw b McGrath ... 5 (21min, 13 balls)
G P Thorpe c Taylor b McGrath ... 0 (1min, 1 ball)
J P Crawley c M Waugh b McDermott 0 (5min, 4 balls)
M R Ramprakash not out ... 0 (6min, 3 balls)
Extras (lb 1, w 1) ... 2
Total (5 wkts, 14 overs, 65min) ... 27

†S J Rhodes, C C Lewis, P A J DeFreitas and D E Malcolm to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4 (Atherton 0), 2-17 (Atherton 4), 3-26 (Atherton 8), 4-26 (Atherton 8), 5-27 (Atherton 8).
BOWLING: McDermott 7-2-13-3; McGrath 7-3-13-2 (w 1).

Umpires: K E Liebenberg (South Africa) and S G Randell (Australia)
TV replay umpire: T A Prue.
Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand).
PREVIOUS MATCHES: First Test (Brisbane): Australia won by 184 runs. Second Test (Melbourne): Australia won by 295 runs. Third Test (Sydney): Match drawn. Fourth Test (Adelaide): England won by 106 runs.

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Venables turns to Tottenham in building for the future

BY ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

TRY as he might, Alan Sugar cannot break the links between Terry Venables and Tottenham Hotspur. The England coach yesterday named four players from his former club in his squad for the international against Ireland at Lansdowne on February 15.

Two of the Tottenham players — Nicky Barmby and Sol Campbell — are uncapped, which is hardly surprising since Barmby will be 21 on Saturday and Campbell is still seven months away from that mark. A third uncapped player, Tim Sherwood, is also included.

Rangey and still growing in confidence as the captain of the FA Carling Premiership leaders, Sherwood deserves to be acknowledged. His cost to Blackburn, a mere half million pounds, was petty cash in the Jack Walker scheme of things; but the man who was his first manager, none other than Graham Taylor at Watford, yesterday confirmed that he had long expected Sherwood to blossom.

Taylor had not capped him, though. Venables might, and this at a time when everyone keeps asking why the squad has no place for Cole, Collymore, Sutton, or even Waddle.

But, with Liverpool playing what to them is the greater priority of a Coca-Cola Cup semi-final on the same night, it is the young Tottenham pair that takes the eye. Barmby has in fact been doing that for the past couple of months.

He was scintillating against Blackburn on Sunday. Playing on the left of midfield, he used his change of pace, effervescent enthusiasm and perceptive eye to roam into goalscoring positions behind Klinsmann and Sheringham.

When Barmby was a schoolboy in Hull, the son of a prolific non-League scorer, he was coveted by Liverpool, Manchester United and Arsenal. Tottenham won his favours, however, and by 18 his career was thought jeopardised by growing pains. Venables was his club manager but, on tour with England in the World under-19 tournament in Australia, he complained of shin splints. He needed operations in both legs yet, this season, under another new manager in Gerry Francis, he seemed at first dismayed to be played in midfield, and then homesick for the North. A new four-and-a-half-year contract, signed last week, cured that.

"Like Beardsley," Venables obeserved, "he can play anywhere. He is performing now like I knew he could. He is over the bad time with injury. He's what I call a knowledgeable player."

Venables also waxed lyrical about the other youth player whom he nurtured until Sugar elbowed him out of White Hart Lane. "Sol Campbell is another of the new breed of educated players, the boys of the future," the England coach said. Notwithstanding that such adjectives, when applied to the embryonic Crystal Palace team forged under Venables, never came up to expectation, both Barmby and Campbell are exciting.

Campbell, born Sulzeer Jeremiah Campbell in Newham, was known as Garth when he played for the England under-18 team that conquered Europe. He has appeared in both full-back positions, centre back, centre midfield, even centre forward ... and seldom has he looked out of control either of a six-foot frame or in the demands placed on him.

So, with Darren Anderton meriting his recall and with Sheringham also included, Tottenham have four men in the 22-man Venables squad. Blackburn match that, and Arsenal and Newcastle have three apiece. But there are clubs who will not consider a friendly international game in Dublin as top priority. There will be withdrawals, and the boys of the future may by next week be the England internationals of the present.

ENGLAND SQUAD

D Seaman (Arsenal), T Flowers (Blackburn), W Barton (Wimbledon), A Adams (Arsenal), S Howey (Newcastle), S Campbell (Tottenham), G Pallister (Manchester Utd), S Pearce (Nottm Forest), G Le Saux (Blackburn), D Anderton (Tottenham), R Lee (Newcastle), T Sherwood (Blackburn), P Ince (Manchester Utd), D Platt (Sampdoria), N Barmby (Tottenham), D Wise (Chelsea), P Beardsley (Newcastle), M Le Tissier (Southampton); I Wright (Arsenal), L Ferdinand (QPR), A Shearer (Blackburn), E Sheringham (Tottenham).

Doherty's frame of mind found wanting in defeat

BY PHIL YATES

KEN DOHERTY left Wembley Conference Centre yesterday still searching for his first snooker victory of 1995. Doherty's miserable year continued as he lost 5-3 to Peter Ebdon in the second round of the Benson and Hedges Masters.

Doherty, beaten in the first round of both the Liverpool/Victoria Charity Challenge and the Regal Welsh Open, appeared devoid of confidence as Ebdon built a 3-0 lead.

Ebdon, who had beaten Doherty in the final of the 1993 Skoda Grand Prix, won the first frame on the pink, the second when Doherty, ideally placed to clear up, missed a simple yellow off its spot and the third with a break of 78.

At that point, Doherty was in danger of being whitewashed. However, in a total reversal of fortunes, Doherty accounted for the next three frames with runs of 33, 44 and 65.

The Irishman, second to Stephen Hendry on the money-list this season after retaining the Regal Scottish Masters title and reaching the final of the United Kingdom championship, led 22-0 in the seventh frame.

Crucially, though, Doherty then missed a tricky black. Ebdon, frozen out for so long, put together a superb 103 clearance and he duly added the eighth frame, a tense, 33-minute affair, to secure a quarter-final against Hendry, the tournament favourite.

Mark Williams, 19, from Ebbw Vale, made an excellent debut at Wembley by beating Willie Thorne 5-0. The gulf in experience counted for nothing as Williams, known for his accurate long potting, overpowered Thorne. Although his positional play on the extremely fast table was slightly suspect, Williams hardly missed a pot of any significance.

Williams, a former British under-16 champion, will now play James Wattana, of Thailand, for a quarter-final place.

He is already assured of £11,000, the biggest cheque he has collected since turning professional in 1992. Breaks of 61, 32 and 50 were the highlights of a convincing display from Williams, which left Thorne, victorious on their two previous meetings, singing the praises of his youthful conqueror.

"Mark played very well. It was like playing against one of the top seeds. It's obviously a bit embarrassing to lose 5-0, but I don't think I did that much wrong," Thorne said.

RESULTS: First round: S Hendry (Scot) bt N Bond (Eng) 5-1; M Williams (Wales) bt W Thorne (Eng) 5-0. Second round: P Ebdon (Eng) bt K Doherty (Ire) 5-3.

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD
No 389

ACROSS
5 Stoat fur (6)
7 Inflamed spot on skin (6)
9 (Tediously) instructive (8)
11 (Tied) tightly; rapidly (4)
12 Pass on (message); switch control (5)
13 Deprived (6)
15 Mildly obscene (6)
17 Infective agent (5)
19 Variety act; change direction (4)
20 Occupying all working hours (4-4); end of game (4,4)
22 Conduct oneself (6)
23 Specially chosen (6)

DOWN
1 Sore; gentle (6)
2 Matted fabric; touched (4)
3 American Indian tribe; Paris ruffian (6)
4 Shoe leather strip; heavy blow (4)
6 Eliot novel, Dorothea Brooke its heroine (11)
8 Temporise (4,3,4)
10 Underground vault (5)
14 Entangle; French composer (5)
16 Sticky confectionery (6)
18 Detective (6)
19 Mr Punch's dog; sort of jug (4)
21 Blow from whip (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 388
ACROSS: 1 Catnap 4 Turnip 8 Make out 10 Covey 11 Door 12 Pamphlet 14 For effect 18 Ardently 20 Grit 22 Cavil 23 Yard-arm 24 Entire 25 Tennis
DOWN: 1 Comedy 2 Take off 3 Avon 5 Uncapped 6 Navel 7 Peyote 9 Tearfully 13 Granular 15 Terrain 16 Gauche 17 Stumps 19 Divot 21 Erie

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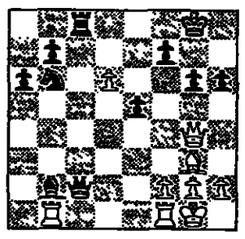
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Engels - Maroczy, Dresden 1936. How did White obtain a winning material advantage with a brilliant combination?



Solution, page 40
Raymond Keene, page 5

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SERTAO
a. The nocturnal monkey-mouse
b. A Brazilian desert
c. A woollen cap

SIVAN
a. A Jewish month
b. A blind beggar
c. To sieve or riddle

TOADO
a. Sausage stew
b. A sycophant
c. A poisonous puffer-fish

WITBLITS
a. Chitterlings
b. Trivial pursuit quiz
c. Home-brewed brandy

Answers on page 40